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THE TIMES

No. 64,562 MONDAY FEBRUARY 8 1993 45p

Citizen Smith ends Labour backing for state control

■ After three decades of internal party warfare, John Smith yesterday set Labour on the side of the modernisers. He promised that the party will govern for the individual against vested interests

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Smith relaunched Labour yesterday as the party of the individual citizen and charted a future in which he intends that its traditional associations with state ownership, high taxation and union power will be buried for ever.

In a speech that delighted Labour's leading reformers and upset the traditionalist left, he said that Labour would win again when it embodied the hopes and aspirations of the ordinary people. He promised to be "bold, ambitious, pragmatic and practical" on their behalf.

Delivering a landmark address designed to present Labour as the party of change and to silence critics who doubt his commitment to modernise it,

Mr Smith ended his party's backing for nationalisation.

Effectively declaring Clause 4 of Labour's constitution to be dead — although there are at present no official plans to scrap it — Mr Smith said that the debate about the ownership of industry was largely irrelevant.

In a reference to Labour's old attachment to public ownership of the commanding heights of the economy, Mr Smith said the new commanding heights were education and training. In so doing he was pre-empting imminent policy discussion by signalling that there will be no commitment to renationalisation in the next Labour manifesto and that the pledges last year to take back the national grid and the water industry have been dropped.

The party's future priority instead will be to improve the regulation of all the privatised utilities. In the words of one of *his closest aides: "This was a* speech about getting rid of the old totems." Tony Benn said the speech appeared to give up Labour's commitment to community and the common good. "It looks as if Labour is being asked to dismantle itself and be prepared to enter a coalition government."

*Mr Smith has called mem*bers of his shadow cabinet to an all-day session next Monday to discuss plans for implementing his new agenda.

His speech to the Labour local government conference in Bournemouth marked a break with the party's traditional collectivism in favour of *a programme aimed at en*hancing the rights and powers of the individual citizen.

Using language that echoed Bill Clinton's presidential campaign, Mr Smith said that Britain needed a "new political approach for a new political era". He added: "What we need is a new politics that puts people first, that rejects dogma and embraces practical commonsense solutions. A new Labour politics that commands popular support by translating our enduring values of freedom, democracy, responsiblity and justice into a programme of renewal for the benefit of all our citizens."

He said: "Labour's goal must be about the advancement of individual people — about their freedom and autonomy, about their capacity to prosper."

In a key passage, Mr Smith said that in the modern world everything could not be left to the market any more than it could be left to the state. His message was that, just as Labour had been wrong to believe *the solution lay in* public ownership, the Tories had erred in thinking it could all be left to market forces and privatisation.

He said: "For years we have conducted a largely sterile debate about the ownership of *industry and services as if* privatisation and nationalisation were the only conceivable choices in economic policy. In the Labour party, we see clearly the merits of the mixed economy and the need for an active and creative partnership between the public and private sectors. We also comprehend that in a world of multinational ownership of companies the only true national asset we possess is the skills and accumulated knowledge of our own people." He added: "Ownership today is therefore largely irrelevant."

Citizen Smith, page 2
Anatole Kaletsky, page 34

SHORT LAUNCHES BROADSIDE AGAINST 'ARROGANT' KASPAROV

TED BATH

NIGEL Short, Britain's chess grandmaster, yesterday returned from winning the right to challenge the world champion, Gary Kasparov, and described his next opponent as probably "one of the most unpleasant people" in the sport.

As he waited to discover which city had bid most to stage the match with Kasparov, Short said he expected a bitter fight when the two met. It would be decided in his favour, he forecast, by Kasparov's arrogance (Raymond Keene writes).

Short, who was met at Heathrow by his wife Rea and 18-month-old daughter Kyveli (above), said: "He is incredibly arrogant. He's power hungry. He's a very nasty guy, a very unpleasant man. The sooner he gets beaten, the better."

Nine days ago Short beat the Dutch grandmaster Jan Timman in Spain to become the first Briton this century to win the right to challenge for the world title.

Where he will play will not be decided immediately, but today the World Chess Federation is to open sealed bids at its Lucerne headquarters. The British Chess Federation last night asked for a three-week extension to the deadline after Manchester pulled out at the last minute after being unable to arrange sponsorship. Bids are thought to have come from Jakarta, Berlin, Santiago de Compostela, Athens and Sofia.

☐ Kasparov can be seen in London at Simpson's in the Strand on February 17, when he plays 25 teams as a guest of *The Times* in aid of the Sick Children's Trust.

M-way toll may fund new road building proposals

BY NICHOLAS WOOD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PLANS to charge motorists for using the existing motorway network are soon to be unveiled by John MacGregor, the transport secretary.

A Green Paper putting forward the idea of electronic tolls on such routes as the M1 and the M6, to raise money towards the £20 billion road programme, will be published by Mr MacGregor after Easter. The move, hinted at by John Major last week, comes against a background of mounting government concern about the spiralling £44 billion public sector deficit. Ministers accept that with such pressure on the public purse and a long-term spending review under way in Whitehall, they will have to look to alternative sources of funding.

As the political storm over the spending review intensifies, the shadow cabinet will demand an emergency statement in parliament today from Michael Portillo, chief secretary to the Treasury, to explain the scale and depth of the review. Labour is convinced that the government is hell-bent on smashing the welfare state, with attacks on *health, education, transport* and other key areas of social and economic activity.

The row raged amid growing suspicions that Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, may be forced to increase taxation — a move that conflicts with what Labour describes as "Tory dogma" — in his Budget *next month.*

Mr MacGregor is emphasising that he will seek views on his road toll proposals before making a decision. The plans are clearly long term and will depend on the suc-

Continued on page 2, col 5

Spending rethink, page 2
Anatole Kaletsky, page 34

De Klerk and Mandela on verge of deal to delay majority rule

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

TALKS are to resume in Cape Town on Wednesday on a deal between the South African government and the African National Congress on delaying black majority rule until the end of the century.

Agreement is reported to be close on the proposal that the country should be run until then by a black/white coalition government of national unity.

This would delay the introduction of full democracy, after more than 300 years of white minority rule, to the year 2000 or slightly beyond. But it also indicates that President de Klerk has accepted the inevitability of black majority rule and that he will be prepared to serve under a black president.

If the ANC wins a majority of votes, as it is almost certain to do, in the country's first multi-racial election, it will share power with the National Party, the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party and other groups. Majority rule will be put on hold to ensure stability on the road to democracy.

Under the existing constitution, such an election must be held by the middle of next year, when the five-year term of the present Parliament expires.

A series of bilateral discussions between the government and the ANC began early in December aimed at bringing about a resumption of the multi-party constitutional negotiations which foundered last year with the collapse of the Convention for a Democratic South Africa. That broke down over the government's insistence on minority vetoes in any new constitutional arrangement and the new proposal goes far towards redressing it.

The ANC want the issue settled before it will join the government in the first phase of power-sharing in a Transitional Executive Council which President de Klerk envisages will be in place by June.

The ANC will face difficulties, however, *in persuading* its militants that power-sharing is acceptable, and the right-wing Conservative Party will reject it out of hand. The government's main concern will be to persuade Inkatha the arrangement can work.

Coming to the crunch: President de Klerk resumes constitutional talks with Mr Mandela this week

Power-share deal, page 11

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Colour photographs in *The Times* today have been restricted because of damage to power supplies to the News International printing plant at Wapping.

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Be ready with force, Wörner warns West

THE West must be ready to use force in Bosnia and other troublespots to stay credible, Manfred Wörner, Nato secretary-general, told Western defence ministers at the weekend (Eve-Ann Prentice writes).

"We must not shrink from the legitimate use of force," he told a meeting of defence experts in Munich. The United Nations could not handle everything alone, and peacekeeping and aid should not be a substitute for curbing aggression. He spoke as airlines halted flights to Croatia and a UN airlift to Sarajevo was suspended after a German relief plane was hit by anti-aircraft fire.

Fighting spread across Croatia and Bosnia as the UN, America and the EC struggled vainly to find a common policy towards the Balkan wars before the security council meets, probably today.

Fighting spreads, page 9

Two held in explosives raid

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

TWO suspected members of an Irish terrorist group captured trying to break into a West Country explosives store were last night being questioned by Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch.

As the men, both Irish and in their 20s, were held yesterday in the high-security unit at Paddington Green police station, police were investigating links with the Irish National Liberation Army. A nationwide hunt was made for a third man, who escaped. The three had been under surveillance for days in a undercover police operation.

In recent months the IRA has normally smuggled supplies into Britain by sea and has rarely attempted to steal from quarry stores which are usually secure. The amount of material held by the Inla is not known, and the group has *seldom carried out attacks on* the mainland.

Yesterday's arrests were made after the three men, thought to have been living in the university area of Bristol, drove to a quarry at Westbury-sub-Mendip, near Wells, late on Saturday night. After days of trailing them, police knew they were planning to break into a quarry store capable of holding tons of Semtex and commercial explosive. Officers lay in wait and a police helicopter with night flying *equipment was on standby.*

The three men arrived at the

Continued on page, col 4

Extradition test, page 7

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T78/92

Tory rethink on welfare state will put benefit net under scrutiny

Lilley: strongest backing yet for workfare schemes

BY NICHOLAS WOOD AND PHILIP WEBSTER

THE biggest shake-up of the welfare state in a generation will offer workers incentives to opt out of the state pension and to take out private insurance to cover themselves against losing their jobs.

The future of child benefit will also be closely scrutinised by Michael Portillo, the Treasury chief secretary, in talks with Peter Lilley, the social security secretary.

The health service will come under the Treasury spotlight as ministers seek to convince the markets that they are serious about tackling a public sector deficit officially projected to rise to £44 billion this year and likely to balloon beyond £50 billion in later years.

The huge scope of the review was confirmed publicly by the Treasury for the first time yesterday. Stephen Dorrell, the financial secretary, said the whole of government expenditure was being reviewed so that "assumptions are challenged and all expenditure is rejustified to ensure that it reflects today's priorities".

At the same time a number of senior Tories urged Norman Lamont to consider raising taxes in the Budget as a way of tackling the deficit. Lord Tebbit said: "I would be willing to pay a bit more tax provided he cuts public expenditure, but not otherwise." David Mellor, a former Treasury chief secretary, said: "We recognise that the needs of the hour mean that the Chancellor can contemplate tax increases. What we cannot have are people who bury their heads in the sand. The government must not be discouraged when it is necessary to be tough."

The scale of possible changes was disclosed by Mr Lilley and Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, at the Young Conservatives' weekend conference in Southend.

Mrs Bottomley said she would be looking to the private sector to play a bigger role in building hospitals for both private and public patients and in providing services to patients. She believes a closer partnership could cut the cost of hospital building and inject greater efficiency into the £30-billion-a-year service.

Mr Lilley also gave the strongest public backing of any minister to workfare, saying that the principle of requiring the jobless to offer something in return for their benefits had been accepted by the government. However, big practical problems of cost and the danger of displacing workers from existing jobs had to be overcome. He predicted the gradual introduction of a form of workfare into job training and work experience schemes for the long-term unemployed. Mr Lilley said: "We will look at any ideas that are put to us. We want to look at it with, in the back of our minds, the principles we believe in: focusing money on those in greatest need and making sure that where possible people have control over their own money."

The social security secretary held out changes to Serps (the state earnings-related pension scheme) — under which people are given cash incentives to make private provision for their old age — as a model for possible changes.

He said that at present 10 million people were in occupational pension schemes and five million had private pensions out of a total of 25 million people covered. He hoped the ratio could be increased. "We have always believed that the government should make sure it provides support for those who cannot support themselves, but also it should enable people to make additional provision for themselves. We have already got the option to opt out in Serps."

The basic state pension, child benefit and unemployment benefit are covered by manifesto pledges and could not be abandoned before the next election without a political outcry. Mr Lilley said that pledges should be kept if possible but "in extremes" a government might have to depart from its manifesto.

Mrs Bottomley wants private firms to come to the aid of the NHS on four fronts:

- ☐ Contracting out support services such as computing and accountancy to companies;
- ☐ Building "patient hotels" alongside state hospitals for use by private patients being treated in NHS facilities and by private patients prepared to pay for a little luxury and privacy;
- ☐ Leasing facilities such as kidney dialysis machines from private firms and clinics;
- ☐ Accelerating the sale of surplus land to raise money.

Mrs Bottomley said it was time to end the "apartheid" between the two sectors. "The fundamental principle of the NHS — that it should be available to all regardless of their ability to pay — cannot and will not be breached. But that does not stop us from exploring better ways of delivering health care. We can learn from our experience of social care where there are strongly developed private and voluntary sectors."

Gordon Brown, the shadow chancellor, last night wrote to the prime minister demanding that the public spending review should not become an excuse for abandoning pledges made at the election.

He described the review was a "panic response" to a failure of economic policy.

Motorway charges, page 1

Major to give builders cash incentive for rented homes

■ Government help for private companies to provide low-cost homes for rent would help to curb housing associations

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major is planning more encouragement to the private-rented sector by allowing companies to compete for a large slice of the £2 billion allocated each year for the provision of low-cost homes for rent.

Plans under study by the Downing Street policy unit would bring private companies into direct competition with the housing association movement, which some ministers say is becoming increasingly politicised. During the past ten years, housing associations have largely taken over from local councils the role as the main provider of affordable housing.

But under plans backed by senior ministers, private firms would be able to apply for grants of between 20 and 30 per cent of the capital cost of building low-cost homes.

They would compete with housing associations, which will this year receive about £2.4 billion through the Housing Corporation towards their costs of providing affordable homes for rent. In the Autumn Statement, the £1.8 billion already allocated was increased by £600 million as part of an emergency package to boost the housing market.

Conservative officials are pressing the plan because of claims that the housing association movement is becoming increasingly stretched by the demands placed by the government upon it.

Some ministers, however, believe that the movement is showing signs of becoming politicised. One minister said: "This movement has grown and grown. It is becoming a monster we can no longer control."

There have been allegations that some housing associations have deliberately built or acquired low-cost properties in marginal Conservative wards in some local authority areas. Some right-wing ministers regard the housing associations as unduly restrictive because there is no right-to-buy for their tenants.

There are, however, cash incentives for people living in such properties to acquire their own homes, thus making the houses available for those with a greater need.

The move is seen as the latest attempt by the government to encourage the private-rented sector.

Sir George Young, the housing minister, suggested last month that tax concessions and other incentives could be introduced to encourage financial institutions such as pension funds to invest in housing for rent.

He said his talks with financial institutions showed they were interested in investing but that "at the moment the sums don't quite add up".

The government is already planning to reduce the grant paid to housing associations for each new home. The figure, currently standing at 72 per cent, is to be reduced to 55 per cent by 1995.

Institutional investors have reacted sceptically to the idea that they might invest in housing for rent, citing the lack of investment and the small size of the potential investment.

☐ The number of people caught up in the negative equity trap — when their homes are worth less than they borrowed to buy them — has increased sharply since October and owners in the North of England and Scotland are now also affected, according to figures from Newcastle University researchers.

Reformist Smith embraces change

BY OUR CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Smith yesterday set out a "new political approach" based on the advancement of the individual. In a speech to the Labour local government conference in Bournemouth he also rejected the old emphasis on the state control of industry and embraced the merits of the mixed economy.

Mr Smith said Labour's values should give the party the confidence to move forward and plan a better future for Britain. He wanted a Britain which was economically successful, profoundly democratic and socially just. "Labour has won in the past, and will win again, when we embody the hopes and aspirations of the ordinary people of this country for a better life for themselves and their families."

Labour had to embrace change as its ally. It should learn the political lessons of the past decade at home and abroad that extreme ideology, both left and right, had failed. "What we need is a new political approach for a new political era. A new politics that puts people first, that rejects dogma and embraces practical common sense solutions."

He promised that Labour's new economic policy would be based on the belief that the most important priority was to invest in people, to provide opportunities and skills that were the building blocks for individual and national prosperity.

Mr Smith recommitted Labour to the aspiration of full employment. "Labour's goal must be about the advancement of individual people — about their freedom and autonomy, about their ability to participate and capacity to prosper — which can only fully be achieved in a strong and supportive society."

The Labour leader said he stood on the same ground on which Labour had always stood — on the side of freedom, democracy, responsibility and justice.

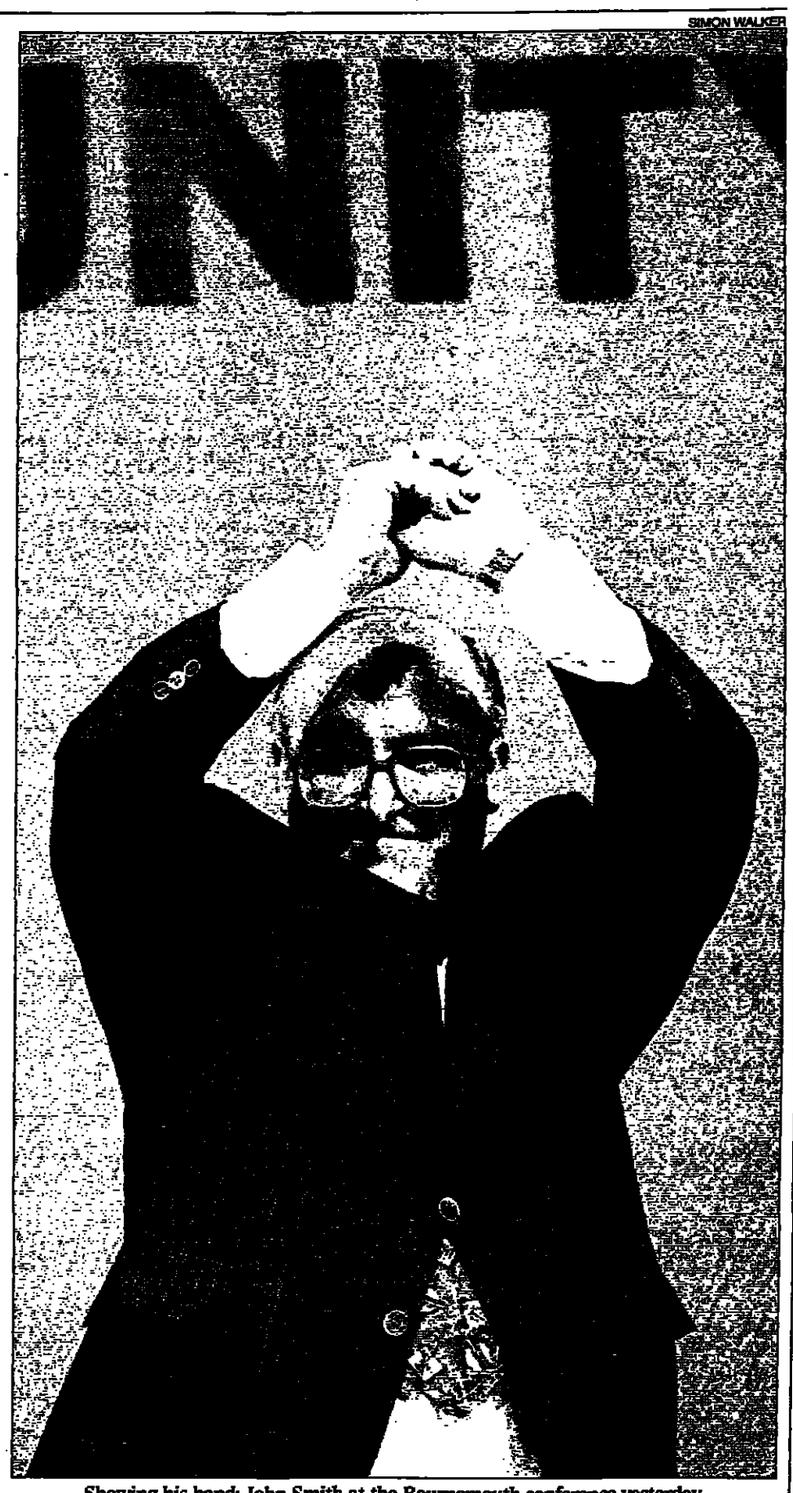
He called for an effective combination of "dynamic markets and active government" to achieve prosperity and social progress. "What makes both work best is active citizenship. Markets need the stimulus of the empowered consumer; government needs the stimulus of the participating electorate."

Mr Smith set out his personal policy initiatives. He threw his weight behind a bill of rights to protect citizens against the abuse of power by the state; the social chapter of the Maastricht Treaty to establish clear rights for people at work; a freedom of information act to give people the right to know what actions their government was taking; devolution of power to the nations and regions, an attack on pollution; a new definition of full employment which recognised the rights of part-time workers; and a strengthened national commitment to manufacturing industry.

He promised that under Labour economic policy-making would become more open and accountable. Labour's aim was to put people back at the heart of policies, replace dogma with imaginative policies and shape a new democracy for Britain. He said: "What we have in this country at the moment is not real democracy. It is elective dictatorship. Once every four or five years, at a time most advantageous to the party in power, we have a general election. For the past 14 years we have had a party in power that has sought systematically to increase its own powers and to destroy, bit by bit, the power of other branches of our democracy."

Smith pledge, page 1

SIMON WALKER



Showing his hand: John Smith at the Bournemouth conference yesterday

Labour urged to hold enquiry into workfare

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Smith, the Labour leader, is being urged to look at workfare schemes as part of Labour's study on social justice.

Lord Plant of Highfield, chairman of Labour's committee on electoral reform, today calls for the Borrie commission on social justice to examine the pros and cons of requiring jobless people to work for their benefits. Mr Smith has made clear a compulsory workfare scheme is not on Labour's agenda in spite of President Clinton's support for the idea. Nevertheless, he has been under increasing pressure from some members of the shadow cabinet at least to consider the principle of the idea.

Writing in a Fabian Society pamphlet, published today, Lord Plant calls on Sir Gordon Borrie to put full employment on top of his agenda. "We have to offer hope and some kind of plausible future to those who believe that they will never work again. The question of employment and its future goes to the heart of any strategy for social justice."

He argues that if social justice is to do with a system of co-operation and reciprocation "then an obligation to undertake work which we know is one of the best routes of poverty is part of what reciprocity requires". The state equally had a duty to invest in jobs and training.

Meanwhile, Bill Morris, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, today defends John Smith's leadership and attacks his internal critics. "There is nothing sillier than the sniping campaign that appears to have started in a few unrepresentative quarters against John Smith. Some people simply cannot get away from the habit of mistaking politicking for politics and are never happy without an internal squabble."

M-way tolls may fund new road proposals

Continued from page 1

cessful development of electronic monitoring of vehicles using the motorways.

Theoretically, depending on the charges levied, motorway tolls could raise large sums of money. Tolls could also make it easier for the railways to compete with road transport, strengthening the questionable commercial viability of the British Rail privatisation.

In an interview with *The Times*, Mr MacGregor said that financial pressures were among the factors behind the idea, which is certain to provoke angry protests.

"After the Easter recess there will be a consultative document looking at all these issues, in particular whether user charges in one form or another can make a contribution to the colossal road building programme we have ahead of us," he said.

"We have a record building programme at the moment, but even so it would take many many years for the whole of the schemes that we have in mind to be completed. Therefore I think it's legitimate to see whether road-user charging can play a part in that and also whether it has some contribution to public debate about a level playing field between road and rail."

In petrol taxes and vehicle excise duty, motorists contribute much more than the £2 billion a year spent on new roads, most of which is now going on motorway widening and building bypasses.

According to the most recent figures, average 24-hour traffic flow on the motorways is running at almost 55,000 vehicles. On sections of the M6 and M25, however, traffic could be over 130,000 cars, vans and lorries a day.

Drivers will resent being asked to pay twice, but Mr MacGregor believes that there are environmental grounds for making people think more carefully about using the car. The Green Paper will also put forward the idea of road pricing in London, primarily to ease traffic congestion.

NEWS IN BRIEF

200 Scots women in hepatitis scare

Health officials in Scotland were last night examining the case notes of 200 women treated by a doctor found to have hepatitis B. A similar screening programme was launched last week in Stafford where a woman contracted the disease after being treated by the same doctor. Ayr and Arran health board said that the liklihood of any patients in Scotland having been infected was very slight.

In 1990 and 1991, before moving to England, the doctor worked as a senior house officer in gynaecology at Crosshouse hospital, Kilmarnock, Strathclyde, and as senior house officer in obstetrics at Ayrshire Central Hospital, Irvine. He is now on leave from Stafford district general hospital and being counselled. Staffordshire health officials have offered blood tests to 1,000 women who have been operated on by him since February 1991. The 26-year-old woman who contracted the disease had a Caesarian section at the Stafford hospital in September.

Charity gets Gorbachev

A small British cancer charity is to have former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev as its international head. He is to be the first president of CLIC International — the overseas arm to be launched by the Cancer and Leukaemia in Childhood Trust whose Bristol headquarters he plans to visit. The charity, with a £2 million turnover, pioneered home-from-home facilities for parents of children in hospital, provides at-home nursing facilities in rural areas and supports research into childhood cancers. Mr Gorbachev was keen to learn of CLIC's care programmes after exchange visits involving medical experts from the Children's Hospital of Russia, in Moscow.

Woman killed in road

A young woman found crumpled and bleeding to death in a street in Comberton, Cambridgshire, died from multiple injuries consistent with being involved in a road accident, a five-hour post mortem examination showed yesterday. Police, who still have not formally identified the victim, said last night that they were questioning a local man at Parkside police station, Cambridge, in connection with the death. The woman, aged 18, who was studying travel and tourism at the Cambridge Regional College, worked on Saturday night as a waitress at a pub in Barton a mile from her home. She went on to a party at another pub. She was not seen again until being found shortly after 3am yesterday.

Seven held over killing

Seven people were being questioned by police yesterday about the death of Stephen Smith, 30, after violence erupted outside the Archer pub in Plymouth, Devon, on Saturday night. Mr Smith died after his jugular vein was pierced by what police believe to be the neck of a broken bottle. His pregnant wife, who also has a 22-month-old son, was today being comforted by relatives. Of the seven people in custody, one is being questioned about the killing, and the six others in connection with allegations of violent disorder.

Trapped PC rescued

A police constable climbing with two companions in Glencoe was rescued yesterday after being trapped for 18 hours on a mountain crag. The companions of Robert Burdett, 35, from Brighton, raised the alarm yesterday and he was taken safely off the mountain by Glencoe mountain rescue team assisted by volunteers and an RAF Sea King helicopter from Lossiemouth. The officer was reported to be safe and well after his overnight ordeal on the Aonach Eagachp ridge.

999 show goes on

The BBC said last night it would continue to screen the documentary series *999*, fronted by Michael Buerk, right, although filming of a reconstruction in which a stuntman died had been cancelled. Tip Tipping, 34, was killed when parachutes failed as he tried to reconstruct the lucky escape of a sky diver over Brunton, Northumberland. Mr Buerk said the *999* team was devastated by the death.

Father on death charge

The father of Linda Fleming, 23, whose battered body was found in a moorland ditch a week ago, was charged with her murder last night. Derek Fleming, 51, manager of a joinery firm, who was arrested last Thursday, will appear before Halifax magistrates today. Miss Fleming, of Elland, West Yorkshire, was a trainee hospital pharmacist.

Bank Melli Iran

The unfair dismissal claim by Iranian bank clerk, Ms Soraya Demeshghi, against her employer, Bank Melli Iran, was dismissed by the North London industrial tribunal on January 20, 1993. The tribunal accepted that the bank had acted fairly in dismissing her in July 1990. She had been suspended in May 1990 following warnings relating to her work, behaviour and attendance. The tribunal also found in the bank's favour after a hearing in November 1991, rejecting her allegations of direct and indirect discrimination, including the wearing of an Islamic headscarf.

The bank maintained throughout, and the tribunal accepted, that Ms Demeshghi was dismissed solely because of her unsatisfactory conduct.

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Parents, police and MPs demand tough sentences for rape

By Adam Fresco

The controversial punishment for a teenage rapist has led to a call for a review of the sentencing of young offenders

MALE judges should be banned from presiding over rape cases, an MP claimed yesterday as anger grew about the 15-year-old rapist allowed to go free after being ordered to pay for a holiday for his schoolgirl victim.

Tory and Labour MPs have criticised Judge John Prosser, whose sentence has also been condemned by police, the girl's father and Victim Support.

At Newport Crown Court last week, he put the youth on a three-year supervision order, saying that a custodial sentence might result in his mixing with people who would teach him "more bad habits". Making the compensation order, he said: "It will give the girl the chance of a good holiday to help her get over the trauma."

Harry Greenway, Conservative MP for Ealing North, said: "This is so obviously a job for a woman judge in the wake of that scandalously inadequate sentence. Nobody, other than a woman, would have the insight into the ordeal of a girl who has been raped. All this demonstrates the need to take men off the bench when rape cases are being heard."

Marjorie Mowlam, Labour spokeswoman on women's issues, said: "The judge should not continue in his job as he clearly fails to understand that rape is a crime of violence."

The father of the 15-year-old victim, from Cwmbran, Gwent, said she did not want the money for a holiday. "All we want is to put the boy who did this where he belongs. He lives only half-a-mile away and my daughter could bump into him at any time.

"It is not a holiday she wants but a chance to rebuild her shattered life here with her family and friends around her. She can't do this knowing this boy could be round the corner. Compensation does not come into it. She does not want the money and that's all there is to it."

The father, a 36-year-old cleaner, added: "My daughter could not bring herself to go on holiday knowing the boy who raped her was paying. She's never asked for compensation, all she wants is justice."

Helen Reeves, director of Victim Support, said yesterday: "I was horrified by the decision of the judge. It was not so much the lack of a prison sentence as the lack of sensitivity of the judge who thinks a holiday can make up for being raped. No compensation order should be made unless the victim has been asked if they want it."

John Over, chief constable of Gwent, wants a judicial review of the case and said the police would be talking to the Crown Prosecution Service today.

"Such a sentence is woefully inadequate and is no deterrent to this most dreadful of crimes. To walk free for doing such an awful thing really means that we have got out values wrong," he said.

Mowlam: judge should not continue in the job

Sir Frederick Lawton, a former Court of Appeal judge, said the government should set up a royal commission into the penal system because of the case.

He said Judge Prosser's powers in the case had been very restricted because the defendant was so young. "The court could have ordered him to be detained at Her Majesty's pleasure, but that would have been in a community home because he is so young.

"It is a ridiculous state of affairs. The courts have got to show that this particular kind of conduct will not be tolerated. There ought to be an immediate royal commission. It could recommend how you deal with this kind of offender."

Judge Prosser, 60, was told in court that the youth committed the attack on his 15th birthday. He dragged the girl from school into a nearby wood and raped her after demanding a birthday kiss.

The teenager, a businessman's son, denied rape but was found guilty after the girl had given evidence in court. He was expelled from the school but his victim has returned to study for ten GCSE examinations this summer.

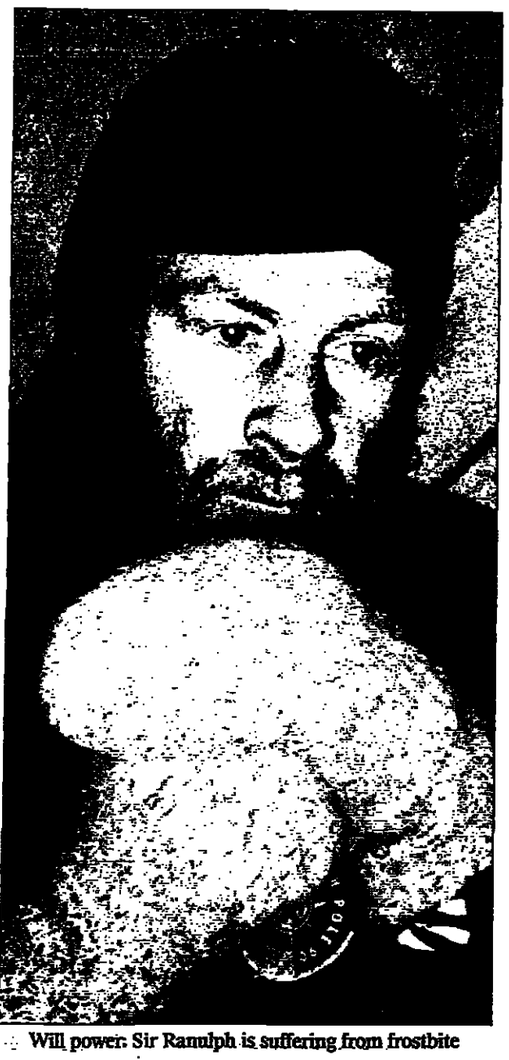
Mr Over said: "My heart goes out to the young girl and her family and also to my officers who worked so closely with them. I'm worried about this girl. She is very nice and she has got to try to forget all this at some stage."

Leading article, page 15

Man power: Sir Ranulph Fiennes and Dr Michael Stroud broke the record for the longest unsupported polar trek on Friday

Polar explorers add another 380 miles to epic journey

By James Landale



Will power: Sir Ranulph is suffering from frostbite

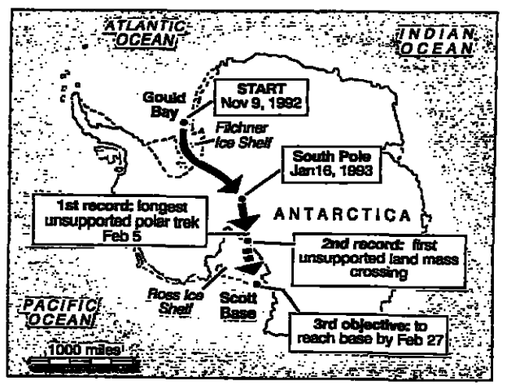
IGNORING hunger, frostbite and injury, the British explorers Sir Ranulph Fiennes and Dr Michael Stroud have decided to walk a further 387 miles to their base camp on the Antarctic ice shelf, even though the pair were on the point of breaking a second record yesterday.

David Harrison, expedition spokesman in London, said: "They have made it clear that it is their intention to continue in the direction of Scott base." They had intended to fly the last leg of the journey.

Last night, they were just a few miles away from becoming the first people to walk across the Antarctic land mass unaided. They broke the record for the longest unsupported polar trek late on Friday night after pulling their 400lb sleds 1,275 miles in 88 days without the aid of dogs or vehicles.

Anne Kershaw, at the expedition base in Punta Arenas in Chile, said yesterday: "They walked 17.6 miles on Saturday, leaving about 20 miles to go." She said they were expected to reach Ross ice shelf sometime today.

Ms Kershaw said the frostbite on Dr Stroud's hand and Sir Ranulph's foot, which is deeply infected, were also getting worse. "It will be pretty painful, particularly for Ran," she said. "But they're not talking about it much." Both men are said to have lost a third of their body weight. "Michael is following all the medical procedures on a daily basis. He is aware of how severe and critical the situation is," Ms Kershaw said.



Their progress was hampered yesterday by the loss of a third skipole down a crevasse. "The Beardmore Glacier is sheer ice. With ten knots of wind behind them and crevasses either side, they will have little control as they go down," Ms Kershaw said. However, she said they had made good progress on Saturday, walking for a good 12 hours. She said: "I'm sure their spirits have been boosted by the fact that the end is now in sight."

When they reach the ice shelf, Sir Ranulph, 48 and Dr Stroud, 37, will be slowed by the "creasing" of the ice as it meets the land. After passing this "hinge zone", they will have a much smoother walk on the ice.

They must reach Scott base before 6am on Saturday, February 27, otherwise the ship waiting to take them home will be blocked in by the Antarctic winter ice. This means they would have to travel about 15 to 20 miles a day over the ice to make the deadline.

"If they have to be rescued — say if Ran's foot gives out or if they run out of food — it would be much easier to get them off the ice shelf because it is flatter," Mr Harrison said. Two Twin Otter snow planes are standing by at Scott base.

The two men aim to raise £2 million for the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Mother of abandoned baby sought

A DISTRESSED woman who claimed to have abandoned her baby daughter on a cold hillside was urged yesterday to come forward after a massive police hunt failed to find the child.

Police said they were taking the woman's claims seriously and have mounted an urgent attempt to trace her. She need fear no recriminations for causing trouble but may be able to reassure officers as to her safety and that of her baby, Inspector Norman Sheffield, of West Mercia police, said.

The woman rang a Birmingham hospital on Friday night, telling staff she had left her three-and-a-half-month old baby Rachel wrapped in blankets in an army shelter at Lickey Hills, a large wooded park in Hereford and Worcester. She said she returned to the shelter but the baby was no longer there.

"She was obviously in a distressed state and claimed to have taken an overdose," Mr Sheffield said. A police hunt using sniffer dogs and a helicopter failed to find any trace of the child and was called off on Saturday night.

Mr Sheffield said: "Police are treating the call as genuine and there is obviously concern for both mother and baby." Police have now switched their enquiries to hospitals, doctors and health centres who may be able to help identify the mother and child.

Mr Sheffield also appealed for neighbours, relatives or friends of the woman to convince her to call police, or to contact officers themselves. All calls would be treated in strictest confidence, he said.

Scientists link cot deaths to kidney weakness

By Nick Nuttall, Technology Correspondent

A LINK between cot deaths and babies with underdeveloped kidneys has been discovered by British scientists.

The finding has been made possible by the development of a remarkable three-dimensional microscope, which has allowed the team to study infant kidneys in unprecedented detail.

The research, carried out by scientists at Liverpool University, offers the first indication that a common cause could underpin many cases of sudden infant death syndrome or cot death. A study of 24 babies who had unexplicably died showed that about two-thirds had significantly fewer nephrons.

These are biological filters that enable kidneys to regulate fluid levels in the body and remove toxins.

Healthy babies should have about a million nephrons in each kidney but many of the cot death babies had far fewer, in some cases just 350,000.

Several causes have been suggested for cot death, including overheating, respiratory infections and the lack of a protein that keeps the lungs elastic.

A deficiency of kidney filters could link several of those explanations by making such children vunerable to dehydration and disease which in healthy children would be filtered into the urine.

The researchers, who were funded by the Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths charity, believe the poor kidney development occurs in the womb. Up to 20,000 babies are born each year in Britain suffering from Intra-Uterine Growth Retardation (IUGR) which leaves some with low birth weights although others can be born at normal weight.

The researchers, led by Dick van Velzen, professor of foetal and infant pathology at the university, believe cot death babies may be part of this general syndrome, which appears to lead to infants missing out on key developmental stages because of a lack of proper nutrution.

What causes the syndrome remains a mystery but it could be linked with smoking or infections in the womb.

Professor van Velzen 'said yesterday: "I think it's extremely significant. Up to now we've only studied causes of cot death, which is why there are so many theories. We have never been able to explain why in so many cases such a little cause can bring about death. This research will help us identify children at risk."

Joyce Epstein, secretary general of the foundation, said yesterday: "This is an interesting piece of research but we are still at an early stage. Only 24 sudden infant death syndrome babies were involved."

The team are planning to deploy the microscope, developed by Dr Vyvyan Howard, a lecturer in the department, to study the brains, lungs of both IUGR and cot death babies to see if other vital organs are underdeveloped.

Explosives store raid is foiled

Continued from page 1

limestone quarry owned by Pioneer Aggregates UK just after midnight. Under cover of mist, two of the men made their way to the high security store, thought to be one of the largest in the country. When armed police surprised them they tried to run away through a cordon to reach their getaway car.

The third man escaped in the mist. The helicopter and officers with dogs searched the isolated hills but failed to find the Irishman, who is described as 21, dressed in jeans and a bomber jacket, and with a strong accent. He dumped his car 200 yards from the quarry and made off on foot. Fifteen minutes later he stole a four-wheel-drive vehicle from the village of Draycott near by.

Michael Hedges, assistant chief constable of Avon and Somerset, said: "The mist was so bad, even though our officers were standing only ten yards apart, they could not see anything. The helicopter managed to get within a mile of the quarry but the pilot could not see the ground. A handgun was found at the scene." Yesterday 50 officers searched the area as the two suspects were taken to London.

Extradition test, page 7

Official dressing down for dinner

By Robin Young

BATTLE has been joined over the correct dress for patrons of London's great hotel restaurants.

The age of elegance may have passed into history elsewhere in the capital, but traditionalists have comforted themselves with the knowledge that lunch or dinner at a London hotel meant jacket and tie at the very least. All this will change with the opening this month of the Regent, a £75 million refurbishment of what was the Great Central Hotel on Marylebone Road.

Though the official opening date is February 20, the hotel's restaurants are already open and the management has announced that no dress codes will be imposed, even in their gastronomic restaurant, The Dining Room.

Wolfgang Nitschke, the hotel's general manager, said: "We want a casual and relaxed atmosphere, and though many of our customers will wear business suits, we have no intention of demanding that our guests wear jacket and tie. Roll-neck sweaters and open shirt collars are quite acceptable, and we will not ban people wearing jeans, track-suits or shell-suits."

When pressed, he conceded that he would not expect anyone to present themselves for lunch or dinner in shorts or swimming trunks. "We have a poolside bar for that," he said.

The Regent is not the first London hotel to abandon such dress codes. The Grosvenor House, Forte's flagship on Park Lane, no longer requires jacket and tie for lunch or dinner in its Pavilion restaurant, which has recently been refurbished as a brasserie.

In other establishments, though, old rules prevail. Lucinda Buxton, for the Savoy Group, said: "We require jackets and ties at dinner, and ban jeans. We do keep a stock of jackets and ties to be loaned to customers who need them, but frankly I would not recommend them."

A spokesman for the Ritz said the only "slightly less pompous" meal there was Sunday breakfast, and jeans were banned "absolutely". The Dorchester said it still required jackets and ties and "smart dress for ladies".

Grete Hobbs, owner of the Inverlochy Castle Hotel at Fort William in Scotland, said she had no intention of abandoning strict dress code there: "Customers who have paid large sums of money to come somewhere smart have the right to expect it", she said.

Leading article, page 15

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Euro-sceptics reject Major's stance and debate voting with Labour on the social chapter

Young Tories cheer as Maastricht treaty is torn up at conference

BY NICHOLAS WOOD AND PHILIP WEBSTER

JOHN Major's European policy was roundly rejected by the Conservative party's youth wing yesterday after a stormy debate in which defenders of the Maastricht treaty were booed and jeered.

One speaker at the Young Conservatives' annual conference in Southend, Essex, was given a standing ovation after tearing up a copy of the treaty in full view of the 300-strong audience. Another was cheered for demanding the resignation of Sir Edward Heath as life patron of the YCs.

The debate came as senior Conservatives clashed over the possibility of Tory Euro-rebels combining with Labour to vote down the Maastricht treaty bill. Lord Tebbit, the former cabinet minister, said he was still considering the implications of Tory dissidents voting with Labour for amendments inserting the social chapter, containing employment guidelines, into the legislation.

But he said on BBC Television's *Breakfast with Frost*: "If they did vote for it, it would amend the treaty in the UK Parliament and the whole thing would have to be renegotiated, so the whole thing would be dead."

David Mellor, the former national heritage secretary, said that the Tory Euro-sceptics might overreach themselves. Maastricht was a great success for Mr Major to have secured an opt-out for Britain over the social chapter. "It would be a terrible thing if Conservative MPs were prepared, because they dislike Maastricht, to vote to insert the social chapter into the bill. That would be outrageous and a disgraceful thing to do."

The uproar at the Young Conservatives' conference marred what had begun as a low-key gathering at which ministers were generally given a respectful hearing. It was another embarrassing reminder to party chiefs and ministers that the scars remain from past divisions within the YCs between "wet" and "dry" factions.

The youthful rebels were egged on by Sir Teddy Taylor, the local MP and leading Euro-sceptic, who made an impromptu appearance at the microphone.

Sir Teddy, who was given a rapturous reception and left the hall with his hands aloft, quoted the reggae star Bob Marley in urging the young activists to "stand up for your rights".

Paul Oakley, 24, chairman of Shrewsbury YCs, who tore up the treaty, said that some people would prefer to be "at the throat of Europe" rather than at its heart.

He said: "The prime minister is being stubborn over Europe to prove how different he is to Baroness Thatcher. But she had an excuse for her pig-headed attitude. She was right."

Matthew Palmer, former chairman of Greater London YCs, said that Sir Edward was out of touch and should sever his links with the YCs.

After the defeat of an anodyne motion congratulating the government on its European stance by a majority of about two to one, the eastern area YCs condemned the behaviour of their fellow activists. They issued a statement reinforcing their full support for Mr Major "following the unfortunate scenes at the debate on Europe".

They said the vast majority of YCs in their area supported Mr Major's vision of Britain at the heart of the European Community.

TIM BISHOP

Raucous majority: cheering Euro-rebels surround young Tory supporters of the Maastricht treaty at their conference yesterday

Market rules force cancer unit closure

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN's only unit for diagnosing cancers of the skin and muscles, which saves hundreds of lives each year, is to close because of a loophole in the regulations governing the NHS market.

The soft tissue tumour unit, based at St Thomas's hospital, London, provides an expert diagnostic service to hospitals in Britain and abroad, saving patients from disfiguring surgery or chemotherapy when they do not have cancer.

The unit receives 1,100 tissue samples a year, three-quarters from the UK, taken from patients who doctors suspect may have cancer. Dr Chris Fletcher, consultant pathologist and director of the unit, said: "I have files of cases which the local doctors have called benign when they are malignant and malignant when they are benign."

A recent case involved a young child with a lump on his shoulder thought to be Kaposi's sarcoma, a common cancer in Aids victims. The child had already been referred to a cancer specialist for a painful and debilitating course of chemotherapy when Dr Fletcher confirmed that the lump was benign.

Professor Peter Lachmann, president of the Royal College of Pathologists, said the service was of national importance. "If local doctors get things wrong they either take limbs off when it is not necessary or leave them and the patient dies. It is a very difficult area and it should be done by someone experienced who sees lots of these cases."

Dr Fletcher, who has also spared a senior cabinet minister painful treatment after diagnosing a suspected cancerous growth as benign, said his request for central funding, which is backed by the Royal College of Pathologists, was being opposed for "purely doctrinaire reasons" by the health department.

A spokesman said that only clinical services qualified for supra-regional funding, not diagnostic services, but denied that this was a loophole that officials had overlooked.

The health department says the unit must charge hospitals for its services. But Dr Fletcher said he deals with every health district in the country, as well as hospitals abroad, and to introduce charging would be a bureaucratic nightmare.

"The unit costs only £150,000 a year to run and to spend an extra £20,000-£30,000 a year collecting pennies from everywhere is lunacy. I cost less than those redundant millionaires who get their mortgages paid by social security," Dr Fletcher added.

Chris Fletcher: "Unit costs only £150,000 a year"

Top-secret spy plane thin end of the wedge

A SECRET wedge-shaped American spy plane that has been "spotted" by crofters and oilfield workers flying over the Shetlands and Hebrides may be one of a family of new reconnaissance vehicles being tested by the US (Michael Evans writes).

The Aurora, reported to be capable of flying at eight times the speed of sound at an altitude of up to 130,000ft, was first identified by Christopher Gibson, an oil rig engineer and former member of the Royal Observer Corps.

He reported that the plane was being refuelled in mid air by tankers, believed to be based at the RAF station at Machrihanish, Strathclyde.

The Pentagon in Washington has denied knowledge of the plane, but the Aurora is believed to be an advanced technology demonstrator, not yet in service with the US Air Force, which could replace the SR71 Blackbird.

The authoritative magazine *International Defence Review* will report later this month that the Americans have also developed an unmanned hypersonic spy plane under a deep black (the highest security classification) programme codenamed "Senior".

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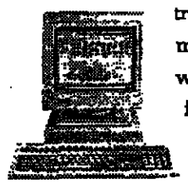

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Security role in Ulster dominates review of army manpower

By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondent

■ The reprieve of two army battalions safeguards the thoroughness of preparations for soldiers bound for Northern Ireland

THE reprieve of two infantry battalions announced last week will have a significant impact on the army's rota for Northern Ireland. However, the strain of having six battalions on emergency duty in Ulster will still dominate the army's manpower planning over the next few years.

For each battalion sent to Ulster for a six-month emergency tour, another two are lined up to prepare for duty there. That means a total of 12 battalions are involved in preparations for every emergency tour, stacking up behind the six already in Ulster.

The battalions on short-term tours are also supported by another 12 regular battalions that are resident in Ulster.

Six of the battalions are serving two to two-and-a-half years with their families and the other six are members of the Royal Irish Regiment, the home service unit formed from the merger last year of the Royal Irish Rangers and the Ulster Defence Regiment, which is based in the province.

The first steps to an emergency tour in Ulster are taken 12 months before the deployment date. The commanding officer of the battalion next in line goes to Ulster to carry out reconnaissance of the tactical area of responsibility (TAOR) assigned to his unit.

Training requirements for battalions vary, depending on where they are to serve. In urban areas such as Londonderry, the soldiers are involved in a mix of foot and vehicle patrols. There are no vehicle patrols in south Armagh because of the risk of mines. Instead, helicopters are used. The area — notorious as "bandit country" — also has permanent observation posts and soldiers have to be trained in surveillance techniques. In the cities, there are permanent vehicle checkpoints and searches of buildings. The routines and challenges are different.

Every battalion turns over one third of its men each year, either because soldiers leave the army or through promotion or secondment to other units. A battalion on one emergency tour of Northern Ireland will never look the same on the next.

After the commanding officer of a battalion has carried out his reconnaissance, a close observation platoon begins training about nine months before the deployment date. This is a sophisticated reconnaissance platoon of the highest quality soldiers who will be engaged in stake-outs in Ulster.

At the same time, the rest of the battalion restructures its organisation to meet the requirements of operating in Ulster. A headquarters with five companies is set up, each with an intelligence cell.

The focus switches to all the special skills required in the province, such as driving heavily armoured vehicles, search techniques, photography, crowd control, firing anti-riot rubber bullets and electronic warfare technology. For nine months up to the time they leave for Ulster, the soldiers carry out special training, although not all at once.

Three or four weeks before going, the whole battalion switches exclusively to Ulster training. It is visited by a Northern Ireland training and advisory team (NITAT), which provides an update of the threat, the individuals to watch out for and the latest developments in weapons used by the terrorists.

There follows concentrated training in two special camps in England designed to mirror urban and rural conditions in Northern Ireland. The soldiers are joined by representatives from all the different organisations they will work with in Ulster, including the Royal Ulster Constabulary, the fire brigade, bomb squad and police forensic experts.

TED BATH

Flying in hope: Julie Ride, whose husband Paul is serving a seven-year jail sentence in Baghdad, spoke yesterday of the chance that he would be freed. Mrs Ride, 31, who flew out to visit him with their son William, 23 months, said at Heathrow airport: "We won't know until we get there if there's any chance of them coming back with us. It's 50-50, I suppose." She is expecting to see her husband tomorrow morning. Mr Ride, 33, of Walthamstow, east London, was working in Kuwait when he strayed across the border last year. With her on the flight were Heather Horne and Iris Wainwright, the sister and mother of Michael Wainwright, 42, of Sowerby Bridge, West Yorkshire. He was arrested last May for illegally entering Iraq while on a cycle tour and jailed for ten years. Mrs Horne said: "Our main intention is just to visit them. Anything else would be a bonus."

Olympic craftsman at the sharp edge

By Ian Murray

THANKS to modern training in one of the oldest crafts, Ryan Brunt, 21, has a skill that enables him to travel the world. As a stonemason, he can obtain a work permit for America or find a job in Australia, both places closed to immigrants with even the most sophisticated computer skills.

Ryan, however, is satisfied to work at Wells Cathedral Stonemasons, the private company set up to maintain the fabric of the church's buildings, which also has a contract to repair Tower Bridge in London. After four years as an apprentice, he has been picked to represent Britain in the 32nd International Youth Skill Olympics in Taiwan at the end of July, as one of 30 trainees competing against 25 other nations.

When Ryan left school, he had only a GCSE grade C in woodworking, and he opted for a job as a gamekeeper. He quickly realised it was a mistake, largely because it meant living away from home. He dropped into the cathedral stonemasons and was given a week's work experience. Not long after, he was offered an apprenticeship.

Ryan has six craft certificates, including a City and Guilds diploma, and will earn £12,000 a year when he finishes his apprenticeship later this year.

"You can see from day one if they have got it in them to do the job," Nick Horton, the company's director, said. "When someone knows what they are doing, it all looks so effortless. That's the way it has always been with him."

Most of the stone used at Wells is relatively soft sandstone, so Ryan will need special training for the Skill Olympics, where granite is likely to be the raw material for the stonemason competition. "It is a war of attrition with granite," Mr Horton said. "It takes three days to cut something which only takes one day with a nice piece of Portland stone."

Treasury condemned for plan to sell art collection

By Bill Frost

TREASURY proposals to sell off the government's unique collection of paintings were roundly condemned as "philistine and outrageous" by politicians and the art establishment yesterday.

Sir Roy Strong, a former director the Victoria & Albert Museum and the National Portrait Gallery, said the plan was cavalier and injudicious. "This sale is another of those Thatcherite ideas like getting rid of British Rail; it will be the Church of England next. The thought of selling off a collection which features hundreds of really rather good works is quite outrageous."

Under the Treasury plan, which is being fought tooth and nail by the heritage department, works by artists including Gainsborough, Sickert and Augustus John would pass into private hands. Dr Wendy Baron, the collection's curator, has reportedly described the proposed sell-off as "not a feasible suggestion".

The heritage department said yesterday: "In the present climate, the Treasury is looking around generally. We at the heritage department would not welcome it and that is why we have no plans on the subject."

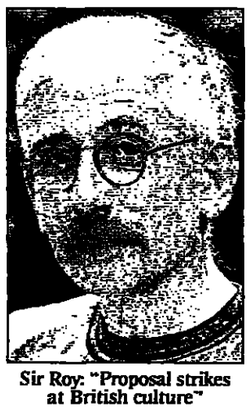
Sir Roy said the threatened paintings, which hang in embassies and ministerial offices, were a powerful expression of Britain's history and culture. "This proposal strikes at British culture — one of the few internationally recognised flags which is not yet in tatters," he said. "Every single British embassy is hung with pictures from the collection. They show the long links between the two nations and provide an extraordinary depth and power to our history in the eyes of other countries."

Lord Healey, the former Labour cabinet minister, said the proposed sell-off was appalling and absurd and promised to fight the proposals in the Upper House. He said: "It is like selling off a national monument to a theme park — but I would not put that scheme past this government." While at the Treasury and the defence ministry, Lord Healey decorated his office with pictures from the collection. "The government owns some wonderful works," he said. "This really is one of the Treasury's most short-sighted and philistine ideas yet."

George Levy, a former president of the British Antique Dealers Association, said that all those involved in the arts were appalled by the Treasury proposals. "My phone has not stopped ringing and everyone says that this is absolute nonsense. The rest of the world would laugh at us for such abject, philistine behaviour. These people will soon be saying we should sell off all the paintings in the National Gallery and then turn the building into a hotel."

Lord Healey said that profits from any sale of the government's collection would be paltry in the present saleroom climate "The market is flat, so the idea makes no economic sense either. But these absolutely irreplaceable works will eventually improve in value. However, it will be too late then though, because they will be with a private collector."

Bob Cryer, Labour MP for Bradford South, will today table Commons questions on the proposals to Treasury ministers. He said: "This is selling off the family silver with a vengeance. If the Treasury have their way, they will soon be selling off the government's cutlery, too."



Sir Roy: "Proposal strikes at British culture"

Arts, pages 27-29

The North reverses economic divide on sales of new cars

By Kevin Eason, motoring correspondent

CAR showrooms are recovering fast from recession on Tyneside while motor dealers in the South-East have lost sales worth £3 billion pounds in three years. Figures published today show that a clear economic divide has opened up between the North and the South, but the traditional view of gloomy North and thriving South has been reversed.

Regional analysis by the Retail Motor Industry Federation shows that car sales jumped in large areas of the North and Midlands last year but dropped for the third consecutive year in Surrey, Sussex and Kent.

Car sales soared to a record 2.3 million nationally in 1989, fuelled by the stock market boom and rapid growth in white-collar service industries in the South-East. The descent has been just as rapid, according to the federation, which represents 12,000 car dealers.

Registrations fell nationally to 1.593 million in 1992, down almost 32 per cent and equivalent to a loss of nearly £16 billion of sales for Britain's car dealers and manufacturers. But in some areas the fall was much greater than the average. In Bedfordshire sales fell 57 per cent between 1989 and 1992; Surrey, 47.4 per cent; East Sussex, 46 per cent; Oxfordshire, 44 per cent; and Kent, 42.9 per cent.

Year-on-year comparisons show little relief for the South. New car sales nationally were up 0.8 per cent last year compared with 1991. In East Sussex, however, they fell 11.8 per cent and in Surrey the fall was 8.5 per cent. Devon, Dorset and Gloucestershire were all down by more than 7 per cent.

The South suffered a 2.6 per cent fall overall in contrast to the 2.5 per cent rise in the North, headed by a 7.3 per cent increase on Tyneside. New car sales were up 5.5 per cent in Northumberland and 4.1 per cent in Humberside. The Midlands also did well, with 5.5 per cent and 4.1 per cent rises in Staffordshire and Northumberland respectively. Sales were up in Scotland and Wales, and in Hereford and Worcester there was a 12.7 per cent increase.

Dealers in the South-East, which were accustomed to big orders for company cars, have seen their rich pickings crumble with the cuts at many businesses. The North has remained relatively buoyant thanks to new manufacturing facilities, such as Nissan at Washington, Tyne & Wear, and because businesses that slimmed down during the last recession in the early 1980s were better able to cope with the present one.

Neil Marshall, director of economic affairs at the federation, said: "We always used to be able to draw a line across the country and look at the riches of the South and wonder how the North could fare. That simply is not true any more. Sales of new cars are a good indicator of what is happening in the economy and these figures show the sorry state of the car market."

Teenage gang leader absconds from care

By A Staff Reporter

THE 13-year-old ringleader of a prolific car crime gang is on the run again in spite of police seizing him in an undercover operation.

Senior officers are dismayed that the youth has been allowed to abscond again to resume his crime spree. They say new laws mean the courts are powerless to protect the public from the joyride addict.

The 5ft youth is regarded as the leader of a gang of six young criminals in the east end of Sunderland, Tyne and Wear. Police believe the gang is responsible for most crimes in the area. When he steals cars, he uses the head rest as a cushion so he can see through the windscreen.

Police launched an undercover operation last week and after a succession of chases the ringleader was caught. The youngster was seen last Monday in a stolen Vauxhall Senator. After crashing into a parked car he drove at a wall, baling out before the smash and escaping.

The next night, uniformed officers saw him interfering with an Escort. They blocked his path with a police car and got out to investigate. But the youth rammed the patrol car out of the way and sped off. He then dumped the Escort and stole a Cavalier before again trying to ram a police patrol car that spotted him.

He was caught later that night and appeared before a juvenile court on Wednesday. Magistrates placed him into the care of his local authority and he was due back in court the next day. Within hours, however, he had absconded and is still on the run.

Insp John Hodson, of Sunderland police, said: "We would have liked him to have been remanded to a secure unit.

"But under the new Criminal Justice Act the law states that someone aged 13 has to be remanded into the care of the local authority and Sunderland social services do not have any secure accommodation. It is very frustrating but that is the way the law is."

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Armchair sports fans take charge at touch of a button

By Nick Nuttall, technology correspondent

ARMCHAIR sport fans may soon be able to take control of what they hear and see.

Interactive television, technology that allows viewers to choose camera angles and other parts of the broadcast, is arriving in Britain.

On Sunday, February 21, viewers in up to 50,000 homes in London will, at the touch of a button, be able to play director while doing their own action replay , during a live match between West Ham United and Newcastle.

Such television, commonplace in North America, is coming courtesy of cable television, which in some parts of the country is delivering an array of entertainment, shopping, home banking, local information and cut price telephone services. At present, cable is available to 1.75 million people and should cover 70 per cent of the country by the end of the decade.

Some cable viewers should soon be able to download video games from an electronic library on to their television system and send messages to friends and business clients.

In Westminster, subscribers to the local cable television company can now shop from home via television for 350 supermarket items, keying in the amounts, desired delivery time and credit card number on a remote control touch pad.

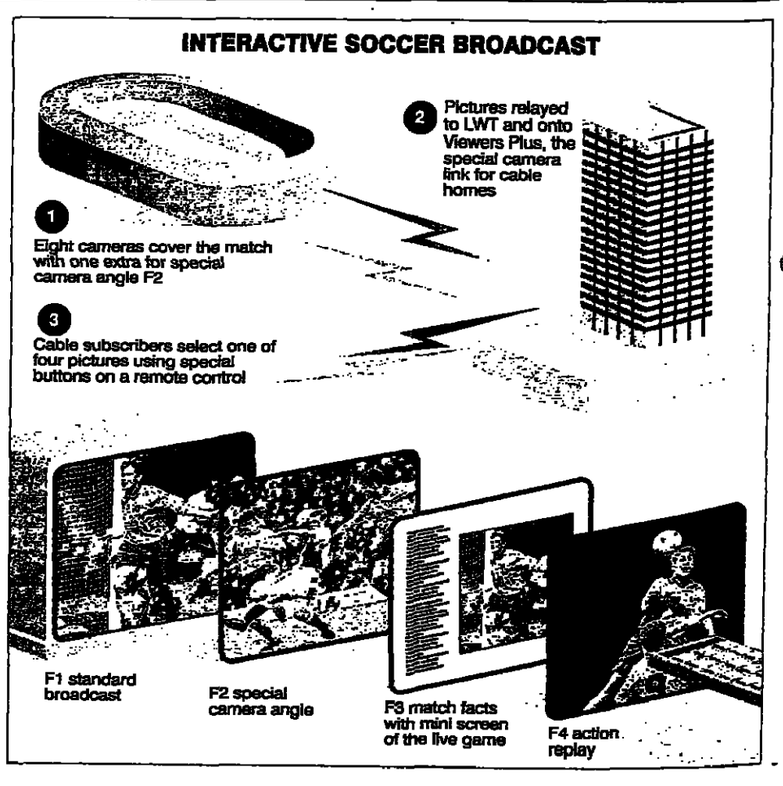
The football match will be available to 50,000 homes in areas including Kensington, Southwark, Ealing and Greenwich. The move opens the way to live, interactive debates in the House of Commons and opera in which viewers can replay an MP's speech or an aria by Domingo.

The West Ham broadcast is being carried out by Videotron cable with Carlton Television and London Weekend Television who will providing broadcasting links between Upton Park and the cable company's headquarters in Lewisham, southeast London. Ted Ayling, the broadcast's producer, said nine cameras would be deployed, eight of which would be used to broadcast the game to viewers in the conventional way. The extra camera will link directly to Videotron's headquarters and onto subscribers' homes.

"People sitting at home have different ideas of what they would like to see. Some do not like close-ups, they prefer a wide angle shot. I cannot tell you where this camera will be at the moment but it will be showing something different," he said.

During the Barcelona Olympics, Videotron tested a prototype interactive service, the company said yesterday.

News of the technology comes as several of the capital's cable companies are close to linking up to develop a film service which, it is claimed, could rival video rental stores and satellite television.



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Mix of spectacle and conservation work are promised at a much-loved institution

London zoo to unveil £20m programme for survival

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY

EIGHT months after prematurely announcing its own demise, London zoo is poised to unveil an ambitious plan to turn itself into a centre for animal conservation and captive breeding. The new role will enable the 166-year-old institution to survive into the next century as a visitor attraction.

On February 18, Jo Gipps, the former curator of mammals who took over as director last month, is expected to disclose that he has got the go-ahead from Peter Brooke, the heritage minister, for a ten-year redevelopment of the 36-acre site in Regent's Park costing £20 million.

All the money will be private. Dr Gipps is confident the funds can be raised from donations, commercial sponsorship and improved gate receipts. However, the heritage department, which runs the royal parks, will need to be satisfied that the scheme is viable before renewing the zoo's 60-year lease, which expires in 1996.

Dr Gipps also hopes to be able to announce agreement with David Laing, the millionaire architect of the Laing construction family, on a complementary project to build a giant walk-through aquarium on part of the site now occupied by the abandoned Mappin Terraces, which were built in 1913-14 to resemble the mountain habitat of bears and goats. A restaurant and a cinema showing nature films would also be included.

The zoo's own plan envisages using the upper terraces as a gorilla enclosure, but Mr Laing's consortium, New Zoo Developments, which plans to spend about £35 million, would take over the lower section. He said: "Spectators would walk through the middle of the tank in a Plexiglas tube and be able to look at everything from tiny coral reef fish to small sharks at close quarters."

Mr Laing's consortium had earlier proposed taking over the running of the entire zoo and constructing a £60 million artificial tropical rainforest to serve as backdrop for gorillas and other animals. After that was rejected, Mr Laing came back last December with the more modest proposal.

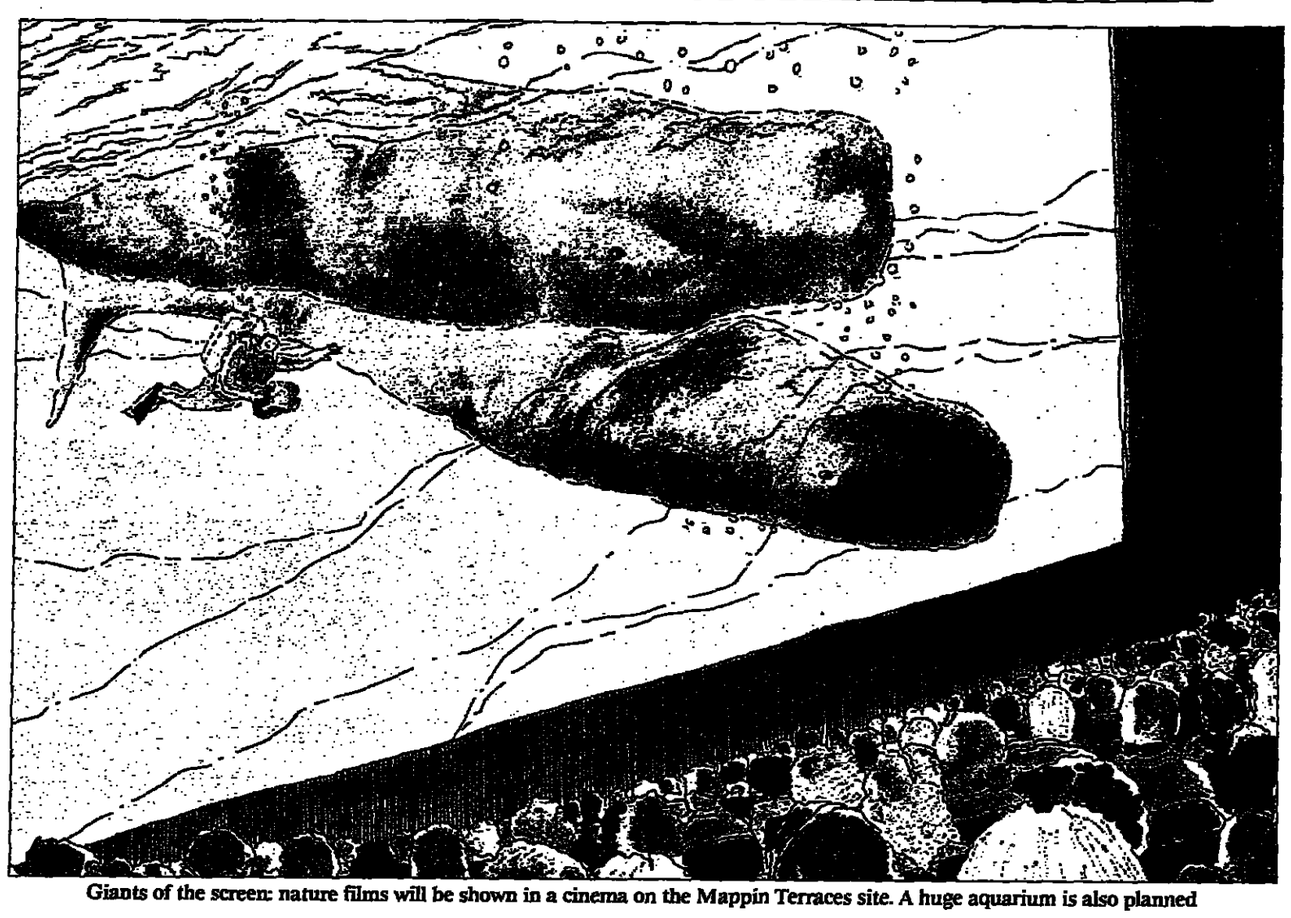
The plans that have now gone to the government emerged after months of fierce debate between the zoo's ruling council and the 2,000 fellows of the Zoological Society of London, the parent body. They attempt to reconcile the views of those who want the zoo to go boldly for spectacle and those who primarily want to conserve species.

Dr Gipps said: "We had to accept that many people no longer feel comfortable with the traditional idea of a zoo, so there will be increasing emphasis on keeping species of conservation importance. But there will also have to be new and exciting things for visitors to see if we are going survive commercially."

Spectacle and conservation interests happily coincide in the decision to keep the zoo's Asian lions, down to no more than 250 in the wild and all confined to the Gir forest in northwest India, and its Sumatran tigers, which are also nearly extinct. The same is true of the pair of pandas, Bau Bau and Ming Ming, on breeding loan from Germany and China.

Other choices will cause more controversy. Three of the four Asian elephants have been retained even though there is no breeding programme and many experts feel there is not enough space for such large animals at Regent's Park. Giraffes and chimpanzees will continue to be kept mainly because they are popular with the public.

Visitors to the zoo, who numbered up to three million a year in the 1950s, fell sharply in the 1960s and 1970s. They have fluctuated since. In 1992-3, after cutting costs by 30 per cent and staff by a quarter, the zoo made a small operating profit for the first time in 15 years even though visitors dropped below a million. In addition, the Emir of Kuwait donated £1 million and £300,000 was raised by the Save Our Zoo campaign.



Giants of the screen: nature films will be shown in a cinema on the Mappin Terraces site. A huge aquarium is also planned

Extradition of alleged IRA man tests Clinton

BY EDWARD GORMAN
IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE FBI has initiated extradition proceedings in Dublin against an Irishman wanted in Boston in connection with an alleged IRA plot to smuggle anti-aircraft missiles from the United States to Northern Ireland.

Peter Eamonn Maguire appeared at Dublin district court on Friday and was remanded in custody on a provisional warrant issued by the American authorities. Mr Maguire, 57, a former flight engineer for Aer Lingus with an address at Clondalkin, co. Dublin, had been arrested earlier that day after returning to Ireland from South Africa.

The case is seen as a chance to test the Clinton administration's determination to continue the hard line on Irish terrorism adopted in the Reagan and Bush era. In his election campaign, Mr Clinton devoted considerable energy to wooing the Irish-American lobby. Leading Irish Americans submitted proposals to him last week urging a less aggressive stance on extradition and a more vigorous State Department attitude on human rights.

Mr Clinton has little room for manoeuvre on the Maguire case in which the decision to extradite or not will be for the Irish courts. Extradition lawyers in Dublin said Mr Maguire had only a remote chance of avoiding being returned to America after what will be at least a year of decisions in Irish courts.

Mr Maguire, who is in prison in Dublin, is alleged to be an IRA electronics expert who masterminded a plan to smuggle anti-aircraft missiles to the IRA for use against army helicopters in Northern Ireland. Two years ago, four of his alleged accomplices, an Irishman and three Americans, were jailed for between two and ten years in Boston. The court was told at their trial that the FBI had planned to arrest Mr Maguire when officers swooped on the gang but found he had fled.

Mr Maguire was arrested in 1981 by Irish police with six members of the IRA, suspected of making remote control bombs. He was later released.

1st AID emergency relief fund raises over £80,000

BY RUTH GLEDHILL

MORE than £80,000 has been raised by 1st AID, a new fund for disaster relief launched on New Year's day — more than double the amount organisers expected.

Money is still coming in, and will be allocated later this month for immediate disaster relief. Eight large charities and 20 smaller ones in the field of emergency disaster relief have expressed an interest in receiving funds.

1st AID, which will be an annual new year appeal, is being co-ordinated by the World Memorial Fund for Disaster Relief, set up in 1989 by the late Group Captain Lord Cheshire with United Nations backing.

In December, 1st AID financed a consignment of baby food to Bosnia. The appeal was a new concept, and the good response to its launch has ensured its survival.

Sir Peter Ramsbotham, former ambassador to the United States, and chairman of the World Memorial Fund board of trustees, said great interest had been aroused from the business community. He expected commercial sponsorship arrangements to help promote 1st AID next year.

In a letter to Peter Stothard, editor of *The Times*, Sir Peter thanked staff and readers for their generous response. "No one who is involved with emergency disaster relief can be unaware of the need for a special emergency fund — money which can be released at once so that help can be supplied in the first crucial days, even hours, following a major disaster.

"Thanks to *The Times* and its readers, we have already provided emergency relief to the children of Bosnia and will be able to provide support to other areas in need of emergency relief during the year."

He said the launch of the appeal, sponsored by *The Times*, had raised far more than organisers had dared hope. The money "provides a significant boost to our activities in reaching our ultimate target", he wrote, adding: "Thank you and your readers for helping 1st AID be first to the rescue in 1993 and for ensuring its future success."

London's trees top five million

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

LONDON has at least five million trees — more than three times previous estimates — according to Countryside Commission survey.

The total includes trees on publicly owned land as well as in over three million gardens. The total estimate of trees is between 4,149,220 and 4,585,980, but that excludes trees hidden in back gardens, of which there are an estimated one million.

The commonest trees are the cypresses, making up 12.8 per cent. Next come sycamores (6.7 per cent) and ash (3.5 per cent). The London plane, originally planted for its ability to shrug off pollution, and the wild cherry tie at 2.6 per cent.

Nick Mottram of Cobham Resource Consultants, which carried out the survey, said that the distribution of trees showed no special pattern, except a patch in the East End where trees were thin.

The lowest density of trees is in the City, at fewer than eight per hectare. The highest is Sutton, at nearly 43. In between come Newham (14.5), Westminster (20), Southwark (31), Islington, Camden, Brent and Kensington (35), and Croydon (37).

The survey, carried out as part of the Task Force Trees project, is to be used as the basis for planning the future of London's trees.

Police investigate hunt siege

POLICE were yesterday investigating an attack by more than 100 hunt saboteurs who held huntsmen and staff under siege by hurling stones, sticks and bottles at hunt kennels.

The incident started after a meet on Saturday of the Chiddingfold, Leconfield and Cowdray hunt at Petworth in West Sussex. The hunt was abandoned.

Jeremy Whaley, the hunt's joint master, said that five cars belonging to hunt followers and staff were damaged by the barrage of missiles thrown over the kennel wall at Petworth Park, which is owned by the National Trust.

The hunt had been plagued for some time by saboteurs, and had been hiring security guards. Simon Wild, an anti-hunt campaigner who was at the scene, said yesterday that in addition to the usual security guards there was "a squad of strong-armed men in brown shirts. The saboteurs retaliated when one man who was sitting on the kennel wall was hit on the back of the head from behind by someone wielding a heavy stick," Mr Wild said.

Mr Wild and 27 other saboteurs are to receive an out-of-court settlement of £16,200 from Sussex police for wrongful arrest. They sued Sir Roger Birch, chief constable of Sussex, for damages after police dropped charges of threatening behaviour following arrests at meets in West Sussex since September 1990.

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TIM/0010

The way it isn't

CRAIG BROWN

J. Edgar Hoover
Was a bit of a groover:
The toughest guy on the planet —
Yet the 'J' stood for Janet.

Francis Ford Coppola
Has made another costly flopola:
Frankly, I don't like my Dracula
In the Transylvanian vernacular.

Zsa Zsa Gabor
Certainly knows how to score
She is currently doing fine
With husband number eight. (Or is it nine?)

Sir Norman Fowler
Is not one for the howler
You would have to search many nations
For *Fowler's Humorous Quotations*

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Pay enquiry considers £20,000 bonuses for chief constables

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

BONUS payments for chief constables worth up to 30 per cent of annual pay are being considered by the Home Office enquiry into police pay and conditions as part of a package for boosting the force's flagging leadership.

The enquiry, led by Sir Patrick Sheehy, chairman of BAT Industries, is understood to believe that poor management could be improved by offering top officers extra pay of up to £20,000 a year for meeting performance targets. The targets could include putting more officers on the beat, speeding up response to emergency calls and improving crime detection rates.

Sir Patrick's report is expected to suggest five or seven-year contracts for chief constables, which could be renewed if they met initial targets. The bonus system would allow police authorities to compete for the best officers, and the enquiry may also argue that talented officers should be allowed to leapfrog to the top posts from the middle ranks.

Chief constables at present earn £55,482 to £79,647, depending on the size of their area and length of service. Only the commissioner of the Metropolitan police has a set length of service. Paul Condon, who started last week, has a seven-year contract.

Sir Patrick's team is understood to be impressed by some of the newer chief constables and may feel that greater flexibility is needed to promote more new blood. There is also reported to be concern at the way potential chief constables are graded by Home Office officials without any clear explanation.

Although the enquiry has yet to formalise its recommendations to the home secretary, its members are believed to be highly critical of the way that police officers are led by middle management as well as from the top. No one at a senior level takes the blame for mistakes and forces are seen as being split by rank rather than working in unity.

There is a feeling that senior officers who carry out appraisals of lower ranks rarely have their own work evaluated and are supported by unnecessary bureaucracy. There is suspicion that the appraisals are carried out by officers who may not know all the men and women under them.

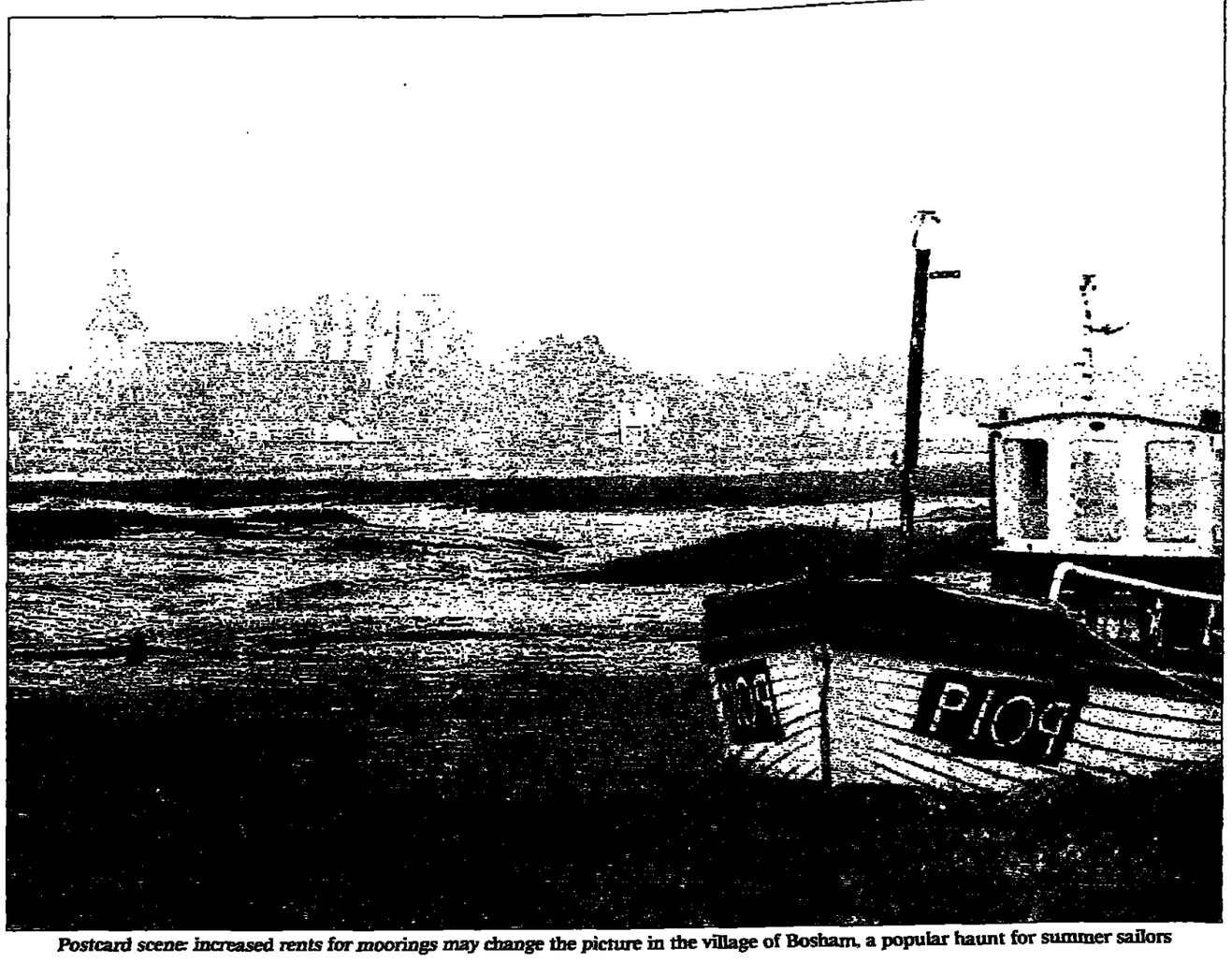
The enquiry is also understood to be concerned that the system for promotions does not tell failed candidates of their shortfalls, and that only junior officers should be tested in the law.

Sir Patrick and his colleagues are understood to envisage appraisals linked to a merit pay system as part of a reform of police salaries that would end the present system of an annual pay award based on the average of a national salary index. Instead, pay would be decided by a salary review board, similar to that for the armed forces, which would make recommendations to the Home Office.

There could also be changes to the present system of making new officers spend two years on the beat as probationers after their initial training. The enquiry may recommend abolition of the probation period and, for example, a would-be detective would go straight into CID work. Some routine CID work could pass to uniformed officers.

The report is due to be sent to the home secretary in May but there may be delays while the enquiry chooses its recommendations and the potential costs.

TONY WHITE



Postcard scene: increased rents for moorings may change the picture in the village of Bosham, a popular haunt for summer sailors

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	£25,000+	5.30	3.98
	£10,000+	4.80	3.60
	£2,000+	4.10	3.08
	£500+	0.60	0.45
	£1+	0.25	0.19
HIGH 30 30 days notice required for withdrawal HIGH 30 DONATIONS will pay gross interest rates 0.5% less than those shown on the High 30 account	£100,000+	6.45	4.84
	£50,000+	6.30	4.73
	£25,000+	6.00	4.50
	£10,000+	5.30	3.98
	£5,000+	4.60	3.45
	£2,000+	4.30	3.23
	£500+	4.10	3.08
PREMIER PLUS CAPITAL ISSUE 1 Three months notice required for withdrawal	£50,000+	7.75	5.81
	£25,000+	7.25	5.44
	£10,000+	6.50	4.88
	£5,000+	5.75	4.31
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ACCOUNT	AMOUNT INVESTED	GROSS RATE OF INTEREST PA* (VARIABLE)	NET PA**
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OVERSEAS 3 MONTH CAPITAL (also International First Class Bond – now closed issue) Three months notice required to withdraw	£25,000+	5.05	
	£10,000+	4.85	
	£5,000+	3.55	
	£1,000+	3.20	
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	£25,000+	1.80	1.35
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	£1+	0.25	0.19
CHESHUNT INSTANT ACCESS (Closed Issue) (also Foreign Instant, Gross Instant, Instant Split and C&P Instant)	£20,000+	4.80	3.60
	£5,000+	4.10	3.08
	£1,000+	3.00	2.25
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	£5,000+	4.35	3.26
	£1,000+	3.60	2.70
	£500+	3.05	2.29
	£1+	0.25	0.19

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT INVESTED	GROSS RATE OF INTEREST PA* (VARIABLE)	NET PA**
SPECIAL MONTHLY INCOME For investors who want monthly income and instant access	£50,000+	5.37	4.02
	£25,000+	5.18	3.88
	£10,000+	4.70	3.52
	£2,000+	4.02	3.02
	£500+	0.60	0.45
	£1+	0.25	0.19
HIGH 30 MONTHLY INCOME 30 days notice required for withdrawal, and interest paid monthly	£100,000+	6.27	4.70
	£50,000+	6.13	4.59
	£25,000+	5.84	4.38
	£10,000+	5.18	3.88
	£5,000+	4.51	3.38
	£2,000+	4.22	3.16
	£500+	4.02	3.02
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	£25,000+	7.02	5.26
	£10,000+	6.31	4.74
	£5,000+	5.60	4.20
	£500+	5.37	4.02

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT INVESTED	GROSS RATE OF INTEREST PA* (VARIABLE)	NET PA**
OVERSEAS PRIME ACCESS Withdrawals available on instant access (Rate change effective 15/2/93)	£25,000+	3.95	
	£10,000+	3.65	
	£5,000+	3.20	
	£500+	2.70	
	£1+	0.25	
OVERSEAS MONTHLY INCOME Three months notice required to withdraw, interest paid monthly (Rate change effective 15/2/93)	£25,000+	4.94	
	£10,000+	3.98	
	£5,000+	3.49	
	£1,000+	3.15	
SPECIAL DEPOSIT Withdrawals available on instant access	£1	0.25	0.19
NO 1 INCOME (New accounts not available) (Rate change effective 15/2/93)	£50,000+	2.28	1.71
	£25,000+	1.79	1.34
	£10,000+	1.29	0.97
	£500+	0.50	0.37
SNOOPY (New accounts not available)	£1+	0.55	0.41
SAVING SHARE	£1+	0.75	0.56

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT INVESTED	GROSS RATE OF INTEREST PA* (VARIABLE)	NET PA**
CHESHUNT SPECIAL 90 MONTHLY INCOME (Closed Issue) (also Foreign 90 Monthly Income)	£50,000+	6.08	4.56
	£20,000+	5.79	4.35
	£5,000+	4.84	3.63
	£500+	4.45	3.34
	£1+	0.25	0.19
CHESHUNT INSTANT INCOME (Closed Issue) (also Foreign Instant Income)	£20,000+	4.70	3.52
	£5,000+	4.02	3.02
	£1,000+	2.96	2.22
	£500+	0.50	0.37
	£1+	0.25	0.19
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CHESHUNT SUBSCRIPTION SHARES, CAPITAL ACCOUNT, EX-THRIFT BOND (Closed Issues)	£1	0.25	0.19
CHESHUNT CHARITY 90 (Closed Issue)	£20,000+	5.95	4.46
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	£500+	4.55	3.41
	£1+	0.25	0.19

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Sailors fear search for profit will wreck watery idyll

BY JOHN YOUNG

AN ANCIENT lordship of the manor, which predates the Norman conquest and is owned by a Guinness family trust, is causing concern about the future of one of England's most exclusive sailing resorts.

Boat-owners fear a big increase in rents for moorings on the 2,400 acres of foreshore owned by Manor of Bosham Ltd in West Sussex. The company owns about 200 of the 550 moorings and sailors believe that it wants to repossess the rest and impose big increases on the historically low rents.

Manor of Bosham denied that it was exploiting its position, but one yachtsman said that in the past two years his rent had been increased from £50 to £550.

The picturesque village of Bosham, overlooking the tidal mudflats of Chichester harbour, West Sussex, becomes the playground of a well-heeled sailing fraternity in summer; one resident said owners of weekend homes included "at least four admirals, several generals and lots of City businessmen and former ambassadors".

What they fear most is that the traditional character of the village will be changed because the higher rents will push away many of the area's present yachtsmen.

When the first Earl of Iveagh, then head of the Guinness empire, acquired the Hundred and Manor of Bosham in the 1920s for a reported £100, the estates it once commanded had long since broken up. But the title included so-called "manor wastes", a large area of tidal foreshore.

In 1971, the Chichester Habour Conservancy Act required all moorings to be registered. Burhill Estates, the Guinness family company that claimed ownership of a segment of the foreshore, said it intended to retain control of a potentially valuable asset.

In 1985, Burhill reached an agreement with The Conservancy, which controls the harbour, to repossess 15 moorings a year to build up its income.

But that agreement has lapsed, prompting growing concern about the Guinness company's plans. Sir Jeremy Thomas, of The Conservancy, said: "By their own lights, the Manor are doing nothing wrong. They want to maximise the return from their mud. But there are a lot of people who see them as absentee landlords, and local yachtsmen who cannot afford the new fees may be driven away."

David Martin, managing director of Manor of Bosham Ltd, said the company did not intend to repossess all of the moorings on its land. Allegations that it planned to charge four times more than The Conservancy for rents were without foundation and had seriously damaged relations with local yachting interests, he added.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Families sue death case nurse

A writ for damages has been issued against a nurse accused of murdering four children in a hospital where she worked.

Beverley Allitt, 23, faces 11 further charges of attempted murder. The civil action is also being taken against South Lincolnshire Health Authority, which employed her at Grantham and Kesteven District General Hospital.

Eight families are seeking damages for personal injury to six children. The parents of Timothy Hardwick and Liam Taylor, who died at Grantham Hospital, are also seeking bereavement damages.

EC toy ruling

The government may ease requirements of an EC directive for toys sold by charity shops to bear a mark guaranteeing their safety.

Sea horse

A horse that threw its rider and went for a swim in the sea off Thorney Island, Hampshire, was coaxed ashore by a lifeboat crew.

Bond winners

Winners in the weekly premium bond prize draw are: £100,000, number 20YS 950188, from Scarborough (value of holding £1,810); £50,000, 22DB 498471, York (£7,100); £25,000, 26BP 462949, Berkshire (£1,057).

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Fighting spreads in Bosnia and Croatia as diplomats wrangle

By Ian Brodie in Washington and Eve-Ann Prentice

■ Washington has still not bought Lord Owen's peace plan. The mediator's candour is not doing much to help his case

FIGHTING surged in Croatia and Bosnia at the weekend as Serbs and Croats seemed to be taking advantage of disarray in the West over how to deal with the Balkan bloodshed.

Dawn sirens woke the Croatian ports of Zadar and Biograd yesterday after Serb gunners tried to push back Croatian army lines around the Serb-held enclave of Krajina. Shells fell along a 30-mile front after the Krajina Serbs rejected a United Nations invitation to hold talks.

The fighting spread as talks between Bosnia's warring factions on the peace package prepared by international mediators reached a stalemate, with all sides waiting for the United States to unveil its proposals for ending the war.

Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance, the international mediators on Bosnia, separately met leaders of Bosnia's Serbs, Croats and Muslims to seek support for their plan to divide the former Yugoslav republic into ten semi-autonomous provinces.

Britain, China, France, Russia and Spain have all backed the plan. Islamic and non-aligned members of the 15-nation council have reservations, and all members are awaiting the crucial decision from Washington. As President Clinton and his senior officials struggle to revise the Vance-Owen peace plan, they have been surprised and then wary of the blunt running commentary on their efforts offered by Lord Owen.

The former British foreign secretary has been giving his views with a candour that has upset some in Washington. There were mutterings among administration officials and some diplomats that his campaign was proving counter-productive.

Of particular surprise was Lord Owen's comment to *The New York Times* that Warren Christopher, the new Secretary of State, "didn't really take in what I was saying". In another comment, Lord Owen said that, if Mr Clinton wants a new policy, he should "stop all this loose talk about using force". He also said: "This could be the big prize for Clinton." The next day a *New York Times* leading article accused Lord Owen of being "as vain as he is smart".

Mr Clinton said that he needed a few more days to review his options before saying what his policy will be.

That approach was applauded by Lord Owen, who interpreted it to mean that the administration intends to use his peace plan as the basis for a US initiative. He told *The Washington Post:* "We're very pleased. We didn't want any confrontation at all. Thank goodness, it's over."

Karadzic: presented the UN with a new map

The Americans, however, are not so sure. Mr Clinton said he has been reluctant to endorse the Vance-Owen plan because not all the parties agreed to it and the Bosnian Muslims might be left "at a severe disadvantage".

The Serbs of Croatia and Bosnia may be trying to profit from the inability of the European Community, America and the United Nations to agree on a strategy for dealing with the Balkan battlefields. Fighting has almost always intensified immediately before the many past — and so far futile — peace pacts and ceasefires have been signed, as the hostile factions have tried to seize as much territory as possible in advance of any agreement.

In another sign that the combatants are trying to gain from diplomatic discord, Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, unexpectedly presented the United Nations with a new map for dividing the republic.

Manfred Wörner, the Nato secretary-general, meanwhile said the West must be ready to use force in areas such as Bosnia to stay credible and warned the allies not to cut defences too deeply.

Herr Wörner was addressing a Munich meeting of senior Western defence officials dominated by a visit by Les Aspin, US defence secretary, who conferred with allied leaders on how to solve the conflict in former Yugoslavia.

The Nato chief said the United Nations was not able to handle everything by itself and that peacekeeping and aid must not be a substitute for curbing aggression. "We must not shrink from the legitimate use of force if we are to remain credible," he said.

Relief flights from Zagreb, the Croatian capital, to Sarajevo, the Bosnian capital, were suspended for at least a day after a German plane was hit by anti-aircraft fire over northern Croatia on Saturday and a member of the crew was injured. Foreign airlines also halted flights to Zagreb yesterday as the fighting in Croatia widened.

Talking tactics: Serbian soldiers plan their next move during a lull in the fighting in the Benkovac region of Croatia. Heavy clashes continued over the weekend in many areas as talks between warring factions reached deadlock

Plane attack tightens noose around city

From John Phillips in Sarajevo

THE noose around Sarajevo tightened yesterday as the United Nations suspended its airlift to the city after anti-aircraft fire hit a German relief aircraft.

A crew member was wounded by shrapnel when the C-160 aircraft came under fire on Saturday night while flying at 9,000ft near the town of Karlovac en route from Zagreb to the Bosnian capital. A propellor was damaged but the pilot was able to nurse the aircraft back to Zagreb on one engine.

"For the moment the airlift is suspended," said Larry Hollingsworth, a UN spokesman. He said UN officials in Geneva were considering rerouting the main Sarajevo airlift to leave from Italy instead of Zagreb, which could shorten flying time and increase the volume of deliveries. A convoy of UN-escorted lorries was expected to arrive yesterday in Sarajevo with 110 tonnes of food, he said, but 230 tonnes a day was needed.

Muhammad Krezeiyakovic, the mayor of Sarajevo, said diesel oil coming from Croatian-held territory would be cut by a half and that this would reduce bread production at the main city bakery by one third.

In spite of their hardship, thousands of people turned out defiantly yesterday to watch the opening performances of the 9th Sarajevo Festival of Culture at an arts complex in the city centre. Wearing their best clothes, people queued to watch avant-garde plays in an underground theatre. Teodor Romanic, immaculate in bow tie and tails, conducted the Bosnia-Herzegovina Radio Television Chamber Orchestra in a rendition of a Haydn concerto in an auditorium above.

Ferida Durakovic, a poet and writer among the organisers of the 42-day event said: "I think people mostly came here today to show they are European human beings who need cultural events." She said the only setback was the lack of heating in the complex.

"We are not worried about security because everywhere is unsafe in Sarajevo," she said. "We want to make this town a real town, to do something civilised. We tried to get artists from all over the world to participate. But most of them sent us faxes saying, 'Thank you, but we can't come'. They were too afraid."

Ibrahim Spahic, the festival director, said: "This is a demonstration of our capacity to go on living. If the world doesn't understand us when we are hungry and half dead perhaps it will when we create."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Albanians deported in Greek round-up

Kristallopigi: Hundreds of Albanians were expelled yesterday by Greece in a purge of about 500,000 illegal aliens blamed for a rise in crime.

Police at this desolate post on the mountainous border between Greece and Albania said they expected between 350 and 400 Albanians to be expelled by the end of the day. But they said most of those deported likely would sneak back into Greece.

Two police buses pulled up at the border post with 102 young Albanians who were arrested for having no residence permits. *(AP)*

Rwanda clashes

Kigali, Rwanda: Three hundred people have been killed and 4,400 forced to flee their homes in two weeks of ethnic and political clashes, the prime minister, Dismas Nsengiyaremye, said. *(AP)*

Talks delayed

Luanda: Peace talks between Unita rebels and the Angolan government have been postponed indefinitely. Angolan national radio announced amid reports of fighting in several regions. *(AFP)*

Alert stays

Algiers: Algeria's army-backed leadership extended a state of emergency imposed 12 months ago amid Muslim fundamentalist unrest. It gave no time limit for the extension. *(Reuter)*

Eruption fears

Manila: Filipino villagers streamed into evacuation shelters and thousands went to church to pray amid fears of a major eruption of the Mayon volcano five days after an explosion killed 68. *(Reuter)*

Singer's aid

Moscow: The French singer Charles Aznavour arrived in Armenia with humanitarian aid for Armenians suffering hunger and cold after nearly five years of fighting with Azerbaijan. *(AP)*

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Clinton team's servant problems infuriate American women

Wood: women feel she was treated badly

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton's well-meaning effort to bring diversity to his cabinet continued to blow up in his face yesterday. Infuriated women accused him of a double standard in dropping his second female choice for attorney-general after learning that the judge concerned had employed an illegal nanny.

The question asked by women in talk shows, newspaper interviews and across family dining tables was whether male candidates for the cabinet were asked the same questions, or were mothers seen as the only partner responsible for hiring child care? On Friday, Judge Kimba Wood withdrew from being considered for attorney-general because her baby-sitter had been an illegal immigrant from Trinidad, even though it was not illegal to hire her at the time she was taken on in 1986 and her position had since been legalised and all taxes paid.

Mr Clinton and his aides were afraid that the public would not distinguish the judge's position from that of Zoe Baird, his first choice for attorney-general, who knowingly hired an illegal couple as nanny and chauffeur and paid no taxes for them.

However, the distinction appears to have been understood and has only added to the anger of women who feel discriminated against.

Patricia Ireland, national president of the National Organisation of Women, said that starting today her radical feminist group will launch a campaign to try to force the White House into asking all cabinet and sub-cabinet officials what they have done about child care.

"If this is now the standard, it is only fair to find out what the male appointees did," Ms Ireland said.

She was also angry over another concern about Judge Wood raised by the White House, that she might be the victim of smutty jokes by late-night television comedians because she took a five-day training course as a Playboy bunny at the London Playboy Club while she was a student at the London School of Economics in 1966 when she was 22.

Judge Wood has said she went on the course only for a lark and left before being employed by the club or drawing any wages. Ms Ireland, however, said her group intended to find out how many men now in high places in Washington went to Playboy clubs or were ever readers of *Playboy* magazine.

A less extremist but nonetheless angry view was expressed by Kathleen Brown, California state treasurer, who said: "For every man who has ever been confirmed to a cabinet position, there has never been the notion of disclosing his housekeeping arrangements, much less how much time he spends with his child. It just never came up as a matter for political disclosure or an FBI vetting search."

It does now, though. Yet another of Mr Clinton's potential choices for attorney-general, Charles Ruff, a Washington lawyer, has been taken off the list because he failed to pay social security taxes for the weekly household cleaner he employed. He has now done so.

To add to Mr Clinton's embarrassment, there were contradictory accounts yesterday about when Judge Wood and her husband, Michael Kramer, a political writer for *Time* magazine, gave details of their nanny. She claimed to have done so a week before White House aides said they found out.

The president is hoping to move quickly now to find a new nominee who will sail through the Senate confirmation hearings and dispel the cloud of ineptitude hanging over the White House.

Despite pressure from women's groups, Mr Clinton is no longer insisting on a woman for the post. His personnel searchers grumble that, because law schools admitted so few women in the 1960s, there is now only a small pool of fully qualified women available.

Baird: withdrew over illegally hired couple

European ministers warn against drastic cuts in US troops

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN BONN

■ Despite America's assurances that it is committed to Europe, Nato is alarmed at the rush to reap post-Cold war cash benefits

EUROPE's defence ministers appealed to the Clinton administration yesterday not to make drastic or swift cuts in American forces in Europe, saying the continent's security still depended on a substantial military commitment by the Americans.

Speaking at the annual Wehrkunde military conference in Munich, attended by most senior Western defence leaders, including Les Aspin, the American Secretary of Defence, Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, urged the new administration to keep a substantial troop presence in Europe. The United States remained an essential pillar of European security, he said.

Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, said: "If history is any guide, it would be as foolish to let the Americans go home as we were in the early 1920s when Hitler was just an insignificant adventurer in this city." Pierre Joxe, the French defence minister, said American troops were a "vital element of our overall security in Europe".

There have been suggestions that the Clinton administration, which is committed to a sizeable cut in the American military presence in Europe, may be planning to reduce the numbers to 75,000 from the present level of more than 324,000.

Mr Aspin assured his allies that the new administration would not act precipitately. "I want to stress that our intention to reduce our presence in Europe by the mid-1990s reflects the reduced threat in Europe, not any reduction in our commitment to Europe."

He refused to make any comment on the predictions. Before the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, American forces numbered about 324,000. Under the plan of George Bush's administration, the total was to fall to 150,000.

Manfred Wörner, secretary-general of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, indirectly attacked America and Germany, the two biggest armies in the Nato military command, which are planning significant troop cuts.

He voiced alarm at the rush of Nato members to cash in the budgetary benefits brought by the end of the Cold war. "The current pace of conventional forces reductions of the allies is having a severe impact on the composition and size of our main defence forces," he said.

Herr Wörner issued a warning that any German reduction to under 370,000 troops must be vetted to see "if, and how, it is acceptable". Every member of the alliance has the duty to consult Brussels before taking steps of this kind, he said on Bavarian television.

"Without the Americans nothing really happens," Herr Wörner said. "But the US cannot be the global policeman any longer." Europe, he said, faced becoming "islands of stability in a sea of instability."

Herr Kohl told the conference that Germany is to reduce its own army of more than 400,000 to below the internationally agreed ceiling of 370,000. But he said national service will not be abolished. He said details of the cuts in Germany's armed forces would be worked out over the next two years. Volker Rühe, the defence minister, will look at how the Bundeswehr can remain fully equipped and able to fulfil its role in the Nato alliance. "We will stick to national service," the chancellor said.

Herr Kohl spoke of the "enormous challenge" the army already faced in cutting its numbers from an original total of 495,000 to 370,000, the figure agreed with Germany's allies and the Russians at the time of unification. By the end of 1992 the numbers had come down to 432,000. Experts here have suggested that with fewer than 300,000 troops, national service would become impossible.

The Germans spent much of the high-level conference explaining to their allies why they were suddenly contemplating such drastic cuts in defence spending, forced on the country by the soaring cost of unification. Herr Rühe announced last week that he had suspended all new military procurements, and Germany will not go ahead with the purchase of the Lapas spy system.

During the two-day meeting over the weekend M Joxe called on Bonn to settle its continuing political wrangle over the participation of German troops in operations outside the traditional Nato area. He said Europe's defences had been strengthened by the formation of a 4,200-member Franco-German brigade and by the steps to begin a Franco-German Eurocorps, the basis of a European army.

M Joxe said that Germany was now, for political reasons, refusing to go beyond a strict interpretation of the Nato treaty. Unless Germany participated fully, a truly European dimension to defence would not be credible.

Present company: Ronald Reagan and his wife Nancy admire a pair of silver cups given by Baroness Thatcher on the former president's 82nd birthday. They are standing in a replica of the Oval Office in the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in the Simi Valley, California

Danes shift to 'yes' on Maastricht

FROM REUTER IN COPENHAGEN

AN opinion poll published yesterday indicated that a clear majority of Danes will vote "yes" to the European Community's Maastricht treaty in their second referendum on the pact, on May 18.

The poll by Gallup Denmark, published in the national daily *Berlingske Tidende*, indicated that 54 per cent would vote "yes" and 25 per cent "no"; 21 per cent were undecided or would not vote.

The institute interviewed 4,403 Danes between January 4 and February 3 this year, asking them if they would vote "yes" or "no" to the treaty on closer European political, monetary and economic union. The poll was the biggest sampling of Danish opinion on the issue since the country voted "no" to the treaty by 50.7 to 49.3 on June 2 last year.

The new vote will be on a revised deal agreed with the EC at a summit in Edinburgh in December, allowing Danes to opt out of long-term plans for a common currency, for joint defence and citizenship and supranational police co-operation.

Belgium allows language regions greater autonomy

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN BRUSSELS

BELGIUM'S House of Representatives approved more autonomy for the country's language regions over the weekend, setting off a long parliamentary reform process to turn the kingdom into a federal state.

"Belgium is a federal state, composed of communities and regions," declares article 1 of the constitutional reform, which was approved by the required two-thirds majority in the 212-seat legislature. The article now goes to the senate, after which it must be approved by King Baudouin before becoming part of the new Belgian constitution. In all, 19 constitutional amendments must go through the process.

"I want to get there — the date doesn't matter," Jean-Luc Dehaene, the prime minister, said yesterday when asked how long it would take. Under the changes — the fourth since 1970 — Flanders, Belgium's Dutch-speaking northern half, and French-speaking Wallonia will directly elect regional legislatures, giving them larger political and financial clout.

Bilingual Brussels and a small German-speaking area in east Belgium will also elect their own parliaments. The reforms aim to end the squabbles among parties representing Belgium's 6 million Dutch and 4 million French speakers that have felled eight governments since 1978.

If the Dehaene package is adopted, the federal government will retain only a few key policy areas, including foreign affairs, monetary policies, defence and social security. Mr Dehaene needs a two-thirds majority to amend the constitution and his centre-left coalition obtained the backing from opposition Greens and Flemish nationalist parties. He needed the extra support late Saturday, when the first article was voted. The approval in the House of Representatives, the parliament's foremost chamber, gave him two seats more than the required two-thirds. It was backed by 144 MPs after two days of debate.

Because some MPs have defected to the opposition over the last months, Mr Dehaene called for caution during the next weeks to preserve the two-thirds majority. "We will have to remain vigilant," he said. "But I'm convinced we will keep the majority until the end." The government faces opposition from Conservatives and extreme rightwingers from Dutch and French-speaking parties who want either a Czechoslovak-style break-up or argue the reforms go too far.

Regional legislatures now exist but are made up of members of the national parliament, granting them some autonomy, but no independent legislative authority in key areas. Linguistic strife in Belgium, which became independent from Dutch rule in 1830, reflects the country's dramatic south-to-north shift in economic power since the second world war. Once rich from coal and steel, Wallonia has seen its economic clout diminish.

Between 1984 and 1990, its economy grew by 1.8 per cent. In the past 50 years, Flanders, long an agricultural backwater, became Belgium's dominant region whose economy grew by 3.5 per cent a year from 1984 to 1990.

In 1992, the government staged a broad debate between Flemish and Walloon parties to seek a consensus about the future of Belgium. That debate lasted 14 weeks before it collapsed in disputes over money and other issues.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Pope prays at site of martyrs

Namugongo, Uganda: The Pope prayed yesterday before symbols of 19th century teenage martyrs who were roasted slowly over a pit for refusing to submit to a Bagandan king's homosexual demands. Hundreds of thousands of people joined him to celebrate mass on a tiny island in an artificial pond at the sanctuary of the martyrs near Kampala.

☐ **Rome:** An outspoken call by Cardinal Giacomo Biffi, the Archbishop of Bologna, for abortion to be outlawed has provoked criticism. "The state has only the duty to defend life in every case: it does not have the right to allow life to be suppressed," he said. *(Reuter)*.

Navy enquiry

Washington: Fifteen US navy officers may face trial for allegedly grabbing women in a "gauntlet run" down a hotel corridor and other lewd behaviour at the 1991 Tailhook convention, according to the *Los Angeles Times*. *(AFP)*

Warlord offer

Kabul: General Abdul Rashid Dostum, Afganistan's most powerful warlord, named as the new deputy defence minister, has offered to set up a buffer force to end battles between government troops and guerrillas in Kabul. *(Reuter)*

Bhutto reunion

Karachi: Pakistan is to allow the husband of opposition leader Benazir Bhutto to visit his wife and newborn daughter in London a day after he was freed from two years in jail without a conviction. *(Reuter)*

Chalker talks

Nairobi: Baroness Chalker, the minister for overseas development, begins talks with Kenyan leaders. There has been political deadlock since multiparty elections last December.

Toxic challenge

Sibiu, Romania: Greenpeace activists say they will neutralise hundreds of tonnes of toxic chemical waste dumped by German companies and smuggled illegally into Romania. *(Reuter)*

Spanish right scents victory

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN MADRID

FOR the first time since the Socialists swept to power in Spain over ten years ago, the government of Felipe González appears to face a serious challenge in elections due at the end of this year.

Yesterday in Madrid the 11th national congress of the main opposition party, the conservative People's Party, ended in euphoria. José María Aznar, a Madrid law graduate and former president of Castile and Leon who is 40 this month, was elected unopposed. "There is a big psychological change at this congress," Javier Rupérez, the party's spokesman on international affairs, said. "There's a feeling that we did not have before, that we might win."

Señor Rupérez was on his way to a policy meeting at which proposals to close the Gibraltar border were dropped. If the party came to power, however, frontier restrictions would be implemented in an attempt to break the stalemate with Britain over Spain's claim to the Rock.

Fired by the knowledge that recent opinion polls show that the party is closing the gap to within a few points of the Socialists, the 2,800 delegates at Madrid's Palace of Congresses gave firm support to a more liberal, centrist image. However, Manuel Fraga, 70, a Francoist and former leader who still outshone his first two replacements, was given a standing ovation.

Señor Aznar is Señor Fraga's third successor since 1986 and during the past three years as party leader he has tried to steer the party away from the extreme right. The slogan for the congress was "the government party" and Señor Aznar demonstrated that, in spite of his weak public image and lack of charisma, he could project his undoubted talents to a wider audience if he can offer alternatives to a public increasingly disenchanted with the government.

Voters go to polls on UN Cyprus plan

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

GREEK Cypriots voted yesterday in presidential elections that were tantamount to a referendum on whether to accept, amend or reject a United Nations initiative to end the 19-year division of Cyprus.

With the UN reducing its peacekeeping force on the island, the elections were seen as the most crucial since Cyprus won independence from Britain in 1960.

President Vassiliou, seeking a second five-year term, was pitted against Glafkos Clerides, the veteran right-wing leader, and Paschalis Paschalides, a businessman who has been out of the limelight for 30 years. None of the three main candidates was expected to win more than 50 per cent of the votes and run-off elections were planned for next Sunday.

President Vassiliou, 61, supports the UN "set of ideas" that proposes uniting Cyprus into a bizonal federation. It would give Greek and Turkish Cypriots, who have lived apart since the 1974 Turkish invasion, a large degree of autonomy and leave them a majority in their own area.

The most consistent of the three main candidates has been Mr Paschalides, who campaigned on the platform that the UN proposals will lead to disaster by paving the way for a Turkish takeover.

Russia's space programme takes off to the Arctic

BY NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

RUSSIA is planning to switch its space programme to the edge of the Arctic circle, ending the country's involvement in Baikonur, the legendary Central Asian cosmodrome from where Yuri Gagarin became the first man in space.

After the break-up of the Soviet Union, Baikonur is now under control of Kazakhstan and there is growing concern that, despite agreements allowing Russia to launch men and rockets from there, restrictions could be imposed and heavy charges could be levied at any time.

The site being studied is Plesetsk, at 62.8°N near Archangel. Until now Plesetsk has been used mainly for launching missiles and military satellites. It could become Russia's new space home, capable of meeting most of the country's space needs.

Phil Clark, editor of *World-Wide Satellite Launches* and an authority of the former Soviet Union's space programme, said yesterday construction may have already started on two pads able to fire Zenit boosters. At the moment Zenit launches, capable of taking 12 tonnes into low earth orbit, are only possible from Baikonur.

Studies are under way to build possibly two pads capable of supporting Proton boosters, which are can launch 20 tonnes into orbit and again are only possible from Baikonur.

" What has been building up is the question of how much longer Russia will be able to use Baikonur without paying alot of money," said Mr Clark.

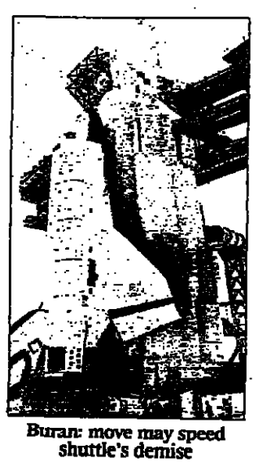
Moving its space operations to such a northerly location could put some restrictions on Russia's space capability. Baikonur, sited at 45.6°N, is nearer the equator which makes it easier and cheaper to get men, equipment and satellites into orbit.

Mr Clark said a Soyuz launched from Plesetsk might have to cut the weight of its payload by up to 10 per cent. "It means instead of putting three men on a Soyuz you might be only able to put two men on," he said.

"For the Progress freighters (which send supplies to the Mir space station) it would mean less on each one and thus an extra one being launched each year." Smaller satellites may also be launched if Plesetsk becomes the only space launch centre.

The move might finally end speculation over the future of the 70-tonne Buran, the Russian space shuttle. To lift a full cargo bay of 30 tonnes requires the Energia rocket, capable of putting about 100 tonnes into orbit.

Cutting the weight by 10 per cent "would effectively be the death knell for Buran," said Mr Clark.



Buran: move may speed shuttle's demise

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Black leaders scale down ambitions in power-sharing deal

By Ray Kennedy in Johannesburg and Eve-Ann Prentice

Although some black leaders accept that they are not yet ready to rule South Africa alone, Inkatha has yet to be convinced

THE secret moves by the African National Congress and South African government to defer full democracy until the turn of the century show recognition by at least some black leaders that they are not yet ready to rule alone.

The embryonic plan, which entails big concessions by President de Klerk's National Party and Nelson Mandela as ANC leader, would effectively postpone black majority rule for the sake of stability.

Moderate elements in the ANC and government are believed to have cooled their ambitions after a disastrous 1992 in South Africa, when multiparty talks collapsed, political warfare scaled new heights and the economy tested new depths.

The essence of the agreement taking shape is a multiparty interim government of national unity that would remain in office for five years after the first universal franchise election. That poll for a constituent assembly is due to take place by next year, provided all goes well with multiparty talks planned to resume next month or in April.

Under the plan, the assembly would draft the first democratic constitution and double as a parliament. The country would be run by the coalition, comprising party representatives in proportion to votes cast for the assembly. The coalition would remain in power until, it is hoped, consensus politics smoothed over South Africa's myriad racial and tribal conflicts and produced sufficient harmony for full majority-rule elections in 1999 or 2000.

Mr De Klerk could serve under President Mandela in the coalition, as the majority party would appoint the leader.

"No one is terribly anxious for a full-fledged election a few months after the election for a constituent assembly," one Western diplomat said, adding: "There will be power-sharing for an extended period." The deal would mean the National Party giving up its goal of indefinite and compulsory power-sharing, even under the full constitution, minority vetoes and an interim rotating presidency.

The ANC conceded last year that whites should have a say in future government, although it resisted making it a constitutional right, saying that that would be a denial of true democracy.

"Anyone in his or her senses would rather trust a partnership or coalition than trust either by itself — for the presence as a partner of the ANC would greatly restrain the natural racial arrogance of the Nats, whereas the presence of the Nats would be an effective antidote to the totalitarian tendencies of the ANC," Zach de Beer, the liberal white Democratic Party leader, said.

The ANC will certainly face difficulties persuading its militants that power-sharing is acceptable and both it and the government must convince other parties that it is viable. Its rejection by the right-wing Conservative Party is almost certain, but the government's main concern will be to persuade Inkatha.

Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the Inkatha leader, broke off constitutional negotiations with the government last September over the record of understanding reached between President de Klerk and Nelson Mandela and the power-sharing issue has not so far even been discussed at stormy bilateral talks between the government and Inkatha which resumed recently and which are due to continue in Cape Town today.

Inkatha strongly opposes elections for a post-apartheid constitution-making body and there are indications that government patience with its perceived intransigence is running thin. There is a growing feeling in negotiation circles that Inkatha might eventually have to be dropped from the debate if it continues to be obstructive.

The disclosure of the secret deal came as seven people were killed and 11 wounded by gunmen armed with AK47 rifles who attacked homes in a black squatter camp near Johannesburg yesterday. One of the dead was an eight-year-old child.

Late yesterday ANC officials who visited the Chris Hani squatter camp in Daveyton township — named after the general secretary of the South African Communist Party and former head of the ANC's armed wing, Umkonto we Sizwe — said it was believed the attackers were "common tsotsis (thugs)" and there was no political motive.

The police were equally mystified over the motive. Lieutenant Vikkus Weber said the gunmen first shot dead a woman in her shack at about midnight and shortly afterwards killed a man and wounded another near by. About four hours later, they burst into a home where a traditional prayer meeting was being held and sprayed it with riflefire. Five people at the meeting were killed and ten wounded.

Meanwhile, a colossal golden handshake for apartheid's legislators and administrators is being planned by MPs, with members with 15 years' service being entitled to large gratuities and pensions equal to their annual salary.

Forgotten tragedy: a malnourished child is given a drink of rainwater in Kongor, southern Sudan. Thousands of children have died in the area due to famine and fighting while international attention and aid have been focused on troubles in Somalia and Ethiopia

Hamas demands peace talks boycott

From Richard Beeston in Jerusalem

MILITANT Islamic Palestinian groups yesterday warned moderate leaders in the occupied territories not to rejoin the Middle East peace talks while hundreds of their followers were stranded in southern Lebanon.

In a move timed to coincide with contacts this week in Washington aimed at reviving the moribund peace process, the Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, and the even more radical Islamic Jihad (Holy War) said that no dialogue could resume while 396 Palestinian deportees were stuck in a no man's land. Although five sick deportees were repatriated yesterday by Israeli forces, the remaining men at the makeshift camp near Marj az-Zahour made it clear that they would accept nothing less than an immediate and total reversal of the deportation order.

The position of the militant Palestinians was set out in a Hamas leaflet distributed in the occupied territories yesterday. "We are warning the surrenderists among the Palestinian delegates and the PLO leadership not to make the issue of deportees a price for resuming peace talks, which our people reject," said the movement, which has become the most powerful rejectionist force in the occupied territories. "Our enemy [Israel] understands peace as a vehicle to surrender, therefore, we are calling upon the PLO leadership to announce complete and immediate withdrawal from the peace talks." Islamic Jihad also called on delegates to boycott the talks. The comments were directed primarily at Hanan Ashrawi, the spokeswoman for the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks, who arrived in Washington over the weekend to discuss with senior officials at the State Department how to resume the deadlocked 15-month peace process.

The warnings, combined with a dramatic increase in violence in the occupied territories where five Palestinians were killed by Israeli security forces over the weekend, will certainly not make American mediation efforts between Israelis and Arabs any easier.

Nuclear inspectors in Iraq accused of incompetence

From Sue Masterman in Vienna

ACCUSATIONS of criminal carelessness in handling classified information on Iraq's nuclear weapons programme, gross incompetence in carrying out inspections in Iraq, and even collusion with the Iraqi authorities, have shaken the International Atomic Energy Agency.

They culminated last week in a lengthy article in *The New Yorker* magazine by science journalist Gary Milhollin, which amounted to an attack on the personal integrity of the agency's deputy director and Maurizio Zifferero, the leader of the inspection missions in Iraq. The IAEA is still mulling over what to do about the article. It is feared that, unless the agency counter-attacks, intelligence services worldwide will be even more reluctant to feed them any sensitive information.

Signor Zifferero, a 62-year-old Italian nuclear chemist, has been with the agency since 1980. Fresh back from the 17th IAEA inspection tour of Iraq, he said the conflict is "an example of what happens when science becomes tainted with politics". He sees the attacks, including a CBS television programme and an article in *The Sunday Telegraph*, as the efforts of people manoeuvring for power under the Clinton administration.

The *New Yorker* article quotes an anonymous inspector as the source of most of the information. Signor Zifferero says he knows who the person is and that he is "one out of two or three persons who, because they proved to be too stupid or too preconditioned, are not included on the teams any more".

He dismissed inferences that he was compromised by his membership of an Italian Atomic Agency Commission delegation, which went to Iraq in 1976 and sold President Saddam Hussein plutonium-production equipment essential for his nuclear weapons programme. On the contrary, he said, it helped him.

He agrees that most IAEA inspectors could "step on a nuclear weapon without recognising it", but says that every team has outside nuclear weapons experts co-opted on to it who know precisely what they are looking for.

He denies vehemently that, because of the multinational nature of the agency and the teams he takes to Iraq, intelligence information gets into the wrong hands. He also denies that countries which have not signed the Non-Nuclear Proliferation Treaty, or are suspected of having an illicit nuclear weapons programme, are getting first-hand instructions on how to make atomic weapons.

Embattled Keating calls March election

From Robert Cockburn in Sydney

FACING record unemployment and worsening economic problems, Paul Keating, Australia's Labor prime minister, called a federal election for March 13 yesterday.

Only hours before the unexpected decision, voters had ousted the Labor government in the Western Australian state election in an important indicator of political change.

A short campaign is seen as the best chance for the federal government to hang on to power after ten years in office. A swing of just 0.9 per cent, or the loss of five seats by Labor, would mean a change of government.

Ostensibly the voters face a choice between a continuation of Labor's economic policies, dominated by Mr Keating since 1983, and the introduction of a radical new goods and services tax, or VAT, by the right-wing Liberal and National Party coalition.

The debate is overshadowed by the deep personal animosity between Mr Keating and Dr John Hewson, the opposition leader.

China issues threat to Patten's civil servants

From Jonathan Braude in Hong Kong

SENIOR Hong Kong civil servants' public support for Chris Patten's constitutional reforms could cost them their jobs after the British colony reverts to Chinese control in 1997, according to a former senior official with close links to China.

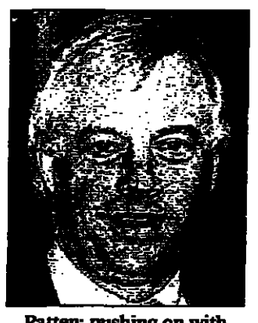
Donald Liao, formerly the colony's secretary for home affairs and now one of an elite group of 44 advisers to Peking, said civil servants should be apolitical and should not be selling the Hong Kong governor's line.

Mr Liao made his remarks as Peking intensified its campaign against Mr Patten's proposals to broaden the franchise for elections to the colony's legislative council and in the wake of a series of personal attacks by China on the governor and his leading civil servants. Speaking after talks with China's two top officials in charge of Hong Kong affairs, he said officials could "participate in policy-making, but they should not push their views in public".

Mr Liao and the other advisers had travelled to Canton for the meeting in advance of a crucial meeting next Tuesday of Mr Patten's secretive inner cabinet, the executive council. It is expected to give the green light for the proposals to be passed to the legislature.

Neither Britain nor China is ready to relax the pressure, although the governor is convalescing after an urgent operation last week to widen his coronary arteries and prevent a heart attack. Mr Patten is recovering well and yesterday walked for an hour under medical supervision. However, he is not expected to return to work before February 15.

Mr Liao's remarks prompted other advisers to counter with a warning to Peking to stop criticising civil servants or face a mass exodus from government ranks.



Patten: pushing on with broader franchise plans

£24m facelift for a grande dame of hotels

From James Pringle in Rangoon

By the old Moulmein pagoda lookin' eastward to the sea
There's a Burma girl a-settin' and I know she thinks o' me,
For the wind is in the palm trees and the temple bells they say
Come you back you British soldier, come you back to Mandalay — Rudyard Kipling

ON THE night before the Japanese invaded Burma, the British community gathered in the grand dining room of the Strand Hotel and cheered to the echo a rather stout Englishwoman who sang patriotic wartime songs. At the end of her act she turned round, flung up her skirts, and revealed ample buttocks covered with knickers in the colours of the Union Jack.

The stage where she performed in the dining room — where porridge is on the menu for breakfast — is still there. But much of the hotel is closed for a multimillion-pound renovation, in a joint venture between the Burmese government and a consortium of foreign investors.

The colonial period is not regarded with relish by the Burmese authorities, who continue to rail against "imperialists" and "neo-colonialists", yet "colonial charm" is a selling point to future jet-setters.

"We do have to be tactful," an official of one of the joint owners said. "The style will be art deco, strong on Burmese influence." The refurbished hotel is to have 32 luxury rooms, with another 120 in an annexe later. The whole scheme, begun in 1991, is costing £24 million but is behind schedule and overrunning costs.

The Strand, opened in 1901 by the Saki brothers, two Armenians who also built the Raffles in Singapore and the Eastern and Oriental Hotel in Penang, Malaysia, is one of the *grandes dames* of Asian hotels.

Five years ago I shared a room at the Strand with a medium-sized bat that lived in a voluminious wardrobe but which fortunately appeared as anxious to avoid a collision as the guest. No such encounter has taken place this time — though you can watch scurrying rats as you sip your Mandalay beer served by waiters who call everyone, male or female, "sir".

The ancient lift rattles and rarely stops on a level with the floor. It is operated by an equally ancient Chinese speaking an obscure Middle Kingdom dialect. The telephone system is as antique as the elevator; calls have to be booked hours in advance.

The manager censors correspondents — he won't allow telex messages to be sent "containing political matter". This, after all, is Burma.

No one seems quite sure about what has happened to a dazzling large mural illustrating Kipling's poem *Mandalay* in part of the hotel under renovation: it represented a lovelorn British tommy dreaming of Burma and a "neater, sweeter maiden" as he walked out with London housemaids.

Both Somerset Maugham and Noel Coward — and perhaps George Orwell, too, as he headed up country in the 1920s to serve with the British colonial police — stayed here, and they would find some inspiration even today.

The splendid old Strand and its ghosts, the last holdout against the developers, is something to relish even in its final days before it joins the ranks of hotels written up in fashionable travel magazines.

Similar ghosts of the colonial past lurk at Moulmein, 169 miles south east of Rangoon. Moulmein was off-limits to most foreigners for more than 30 years, since the military coup in 1962. The Burmese military junta, engaged in a campaign to present a more acceptable face to the world, reopened this colourful but down-at-heel "forgotten" city, as one diplomat in Rangoon calls it, last month to overseas visitors.

Few have ventured here yet, but for those who do there are memories of the 19th-century colonial period when 2,000 Europeans lived here, the second world war — the Japanese broke into Burma along the Thai border near here — and of the tragedy of the Death Railway.

Porridge still on the menu, but the Strand's new style will be art deco, with a Burmese influence

A visit to Moulmein, while not an easy or a relaxing enterprise, shows that "Kipling's pagoda", as some locals call it (its real name is Kyaikthanlan) is still very much here. So are the cheroot-smoking "neater, sweeter" maidens.

The Burmese government has built a hotel here on the edge of the Salween, and is hoping for tourists, but the security situation will have to improve, as will the behaviour of Burmese officials encountered on the way, before Moulmein becomes a popular destination for the travelling rich.

An operative of Burma's military intelligence made a special visit to the hotel to give me a personal warning not to go outside Moulmein "because it is not safe".

There may have been something in that because the British ambassador to Rangoon, Julian Hartland-Swann, on his visits to the "Burma railway" war graves at Thanbyuzayat, 40 miles south of here, is escorted by two truckloads of Burmese troops. The graves, rare visitors report, are impeccably kept.

Insurgents of the Mon State Army are the most likely source of opposition in this area. There is heavy security on the road south from Rangoon, particularly at the bridge over the Sittang river, where allied troops defending Rangoon fought a last and disastrous battle against the Japanese in 1942.

NEW INVESTMENT RATES FROM THE CHESHIRE

FROM 8TH FEBRUARY 1993

	GROSS RATE %	NET RATE %	GROSS % C.A.R.*
PREMIUM 100 Annual Interest			
£100,000+	8.00	6.00	-
£50,000+	7.75	5.81	-
£25,000+	7.25	5.44	-
£10,000+	6.75	5.06	-
PREMIUM 60 INCOME Monthly Interest			
£100,000+	7.07	5.30	7.30
£50,000+	6.88	5.16	7.10
£25,000+	6.17	4.63	6.35
£10,000+	5.70	4.28	5.85
£5,000+	5.37	4.03	5.50
£2,500+	4.60	3.45	4.70
PREMIUM ACCESS Annual Interest			
£50,000+	5.85	4.39	-
£25,000+	5.60	4.20	-
£10,000+	5.35	4.01	-
£5,000+	4.90	3.68	-
£2,500+	4.65	3.49	-
£500+	4.30	3.23	-
£1+	1.00	0.75	-

CLOSED ISSUES

	GROSS RATE %	NET RATE %	GROSS %CAR*
PREMIUM 60 Annual Interest			
£50,000+	5.85	4.39	-
£25,000+	5.60	4.20	-
£10,000+	5.35	4.01	-
£5,000+	4.90	3.68	-
£2,500+	4.65	3.49	-
£500+	4.30	3.23	-
£1+	1.00	0.75	-
SUPERSHARE PLUS Annual Interest			
£50,000+	5.75	2.81	-
£10,000+	3.50	2.63	-
£5,000+	3.35	2.51	-
£500+	2.95	2.21	-
£1+	1.00	0.75	-
Monthly Interest			
£50,000+	3.69	2.77	3.75
£10,000+	3.45	2.59	3.50
£5,000+	3.30	2.48	3.35
£2,000+	2.91	2.18	2.96
PREMIUM INCOME Monthly Interest			
£25,000+	5.06	3.79	-
£10,000+	4.55	3.41	-
£5,000+	4.05	3.04	-

	GROSS RATE %	NET RATE %	GROSS %CAR*
CAPITAL PLUS SPECIAL ISSUE Annual Interest			
£25,000+	4.47	3.35	-
£10,000+	3.93	2.95	-
CAPITAL PLUS MONTHLY Monthly Interest	3.00	2.25	-
CAPITAL PLUS Annual Interest	3.00	2.25	-
CHAMPION BOND (2nd ISSUE) Half Yearly/Monthly Interest	1.47	1.10	-
CHAMPION BOND (3rd ISSUE) Annual Interest	2.87	2.18	-
FLEXIBLE FUND Half Yearly Interest			
£25,000+	1.67	1.25	-
£1+	1.00	0.75	-
THRIFTY SAVERS Annual Interest	1.00	0.75	-
ORDINARY SHARE Half Yearly Interest	1.00	0.75	-

The gross rate of interest on all other closed issue accounts will be reduced by 0.8% gross per annum, except for accounts where the resulting rate would be less than 1% gross. In these cases the rate will be reduced to 1% gross per annum.

FROM 1ST MARCH 1993

TESSA	GROSS RATE %	MORTGAGE RATES
£3,000+	7.49	The basic rate of interest charged on existing mortgages for owner occupiers will be 7.99% from 1st March 1993, or at a later date subject to the terms of the mortgage deed.
£1+	6.00	

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Top dogs: Sally Leich finds huskies a joy to work with

Running with the pack

Sally Leich races Siberian huskies in a gruelling, male-dominated sport

She stands in the middle of an enclosure surrounded by a pack of spectacular Siberian huskies. The dogs are grinning widely and leaping up to lick her face. She selects 30, loads them into a van and drives eight miles to a stretch of forest, where she swiftly harnesses the dogs in pairs, clipping six to long lines attached to a neat, wheeled rig. Apart from the absence of snow and the flat landscape, it looks like a scene straight out of Canadian folklore. In fact, Sally Leich, 39, is one of Britain's top husky racers and among a handful of women competing in this gruelling, male-dominated sport.

She lives with and trains her team in East Anglia, without the hills and snowfalls which most of her rivals take for granted. Nevertheless, Miss Leich is one of the favourites for the next race in the Labatts national championship at Culbin on February 20-21.

Each event in the six-part championship attracts more than 100 two, four and six-dog teams, the cream of the 200 who compete regularly on Britain's growing circuit. Last season Miss Leich won two of the big races and finished a creditable third in the gruelling Kielder rally, which she won in 1990.

Her love affair with huskies began as a schoolgirl while her father was working for Shell in America, and the family were so attracted to the wolf-like, frost-faced animals that they brought back a dog and a bitch, only the third pair of Siberian huskies imported into Britain. She began running them in harness as the best exercise, since despite their intelligence and good nature huskies cannot be allowed to run wild because of their hunting instincts.

Her interest rapidly became a passion, and after university — where she took degrees in psychology and animal behaviour — she moved into an old farmhouse with a household of husky enthusiasts. For 16 years they have worked together to build a series of outstanding teams.

Fitness is vital to both "musher" and team. The dogs are harnessed to a heavy all-terrain vehicle, which they pull to develop stamina. Miss Leich goes jogging, in addition to the three hours training she puts in with the dogs five days a week in the autumn, winter and early spring.

The dogs cost about £100 a week to feed, and all in the household contribute to a dog fund. Miss Leich earns her living as a sculptor and reflexologist, and by making sledge-dog equipment.

Each evening, the 37 huskies come in from their enclosures to lounge around the large utility room. "Some sit on our laps or lick us to bits, others just lie about and revel in the social life," Miss Leich says. "Such bright, sensitive, receptive creatures are a joy to work with."

SALLY JONES

© Times Newspapers Ltd 1993

Forecasters predict a demand for "feminine" management. But which sex will provide it? **Victoria McKee** reports

Prepare to meet thy boom

Back to the future: spending time with the family rather than at the office will become a status symbol, according to the "megatrend" pundits

You may not know what a "megatrend" is, but if you are a woman in your thirties or forties you are part of one. And your future, according to a new book, is looking bright.

Megatrends for Women predicts that baby boom women will be taking a leading role in politics, business, sport, fashion and religion over the coming decade, that male bastions such as the church will become "feminised" together with health care and social activism — and that the "Mommy track", where working mothers were once sidelined, will become the right track.

Patricia Aburdene, 45, and her 63-year-old husband, John Naisbitt have been publishing their "Megatrends" forecasts since 1982, but this is the first devoted to women. A hastily updated and rather cursorily Anglicised version is due next month from Century.

British women, Ms Aburdene maintains, are "way ahead of American women politically", but with a few obvious exceptions (Baroness Thatcher, Virginia Bottomley, Gillian Shephard and "that woman president in Ireland"), the examples she uses remain American. She envisages a female president by the year 2008 — "and possibly even as early as 2000" and feels she will be someone such as Kathleen Brown, Jerry Brown's sister and the state treasurer of California. "Hillary Clinton is the beginning of the end of the office of First Lady. We will see that office abolished within about the next ten or 12 years. We will see Hillary as a transitional figure, between the glorified corporate wife syndrome and the dual-career presidential family, where the spouse refuses to abandon a career in what are the prime power years."

Ms Aburdene is keen on the concept of "prime power years". "The biggest generation of women who have worked full-time are coming into their prime power years, and there is strength in numbers," she says. "Behind the few high-profile women in their fifties and sixties is a generation of 40-year-olds who have had successful careers for 20 years."

Their time, she and her husband are convinced, has come, and their needs will "revolutionise" women's health care, not just through approaches to hormone replacement therapy — "40-50 million women will be going through the menopause megatrend" — but through treating breast cancer, heart disease and other attendant ills.

With Hillary Clinton heading the presidential commission charged with improving the health service, the "feminisation of health care", as Ms Aburdene calls it, is assured. And "Billary", as the combination of Clintons in their prime power years is known, makes the ideal "collaborative couple" which will form another megatrend. *Megatrends* claims that there are "as many as 1.8 million husband-and-wife entrepreneurial couples" in America.

For these couples money is not the driving force: "It's the independence they feel as a couple, the power of self-reliance, the total commitment and involvement in a service or a product over which they have absolute control, and the gratification and bonding that come from working together."

Is this not a case of taking a micro-trend she has noticed among like-minded acquaintances, viewing it through rose-tinted glass and calling it a megatrend? Ms Aburdene is confident of her ability to extrapolate from her personal situation into broader principles. After all, she is a member of the baby boom "Me" generation which has spawned so many futorologists precisely because they know the odds are that what they want is what many others want.

> Behind the few high-profile women in their fifties is a generation of well-established 40-year-olds

The American forecaster, Faith Popcorn, who concentrates more on micro-trends such as whether we will be drinking Coca-Cola in ten years' time, operates in a similarly instinctual style. In Britain Bob Tyrrell, also in his forties and the managing director of the Henley Centre for Forecasting, admits that "since the generation now in their forties is at the core of the changes in society, you do look at yourself".

Megatrends for Women predicts that "female" management styles, defined as empowering, intuitive, team-building and non-combative, will take over from outmoded "male" ones involving control, power plays and rigid hierarchies — giving women managers the leading edge. Mr Tyrell feels, however, that men are going to usurp these skills and continue to occupy the high ground. "And our research shows that couples who work together see too much of each other, which can often cause problems."

Today Spencer Stuart, one of the leading international headhunting organisations, publishes its study on *Women in Management*. The 44-page document, based on detailed interviews with senior British women managers, offers more support for Mr Tyrrell's scepticism.

"The women at the top do not believe that they are there because they have adopted a 'feminine' management style," says Nigel Dyckhoff, one of ten male and two female partners in Spencer Stuart and the man who interviewed all 50 women.

"While there is little doubt that the sort of manager who is needed in the future will be a more caring, consensus manager, men and women are equally capable of managing like that, and since men already have a foot on the ladder, they will adopt these styles. The women I interviewed would not argue that being a woman makes them instinctively better managers."

The study concludes that part of the reason why there are so few women at the top is a lack of mentors. "Men have been reluctant to mentor women and there are not enough women at the top to do so," Mr Dyckhoff says. Not only does there seem to a slight jealousy among women, they "also suffer from many prejudices and false assumptions that prevent them from getting to the top".

Mr Tyrrell questions whether the *Megatrends* belief that there will be a feminisation of the church and religion over the next decade or so will be borne out in Britain. Despite the decision by the Church of England to allow the ordination of women, he thinks this could only be considered, for the time-being, a micro-trend. He does accept that women already dominate the field of fitness activities and that "their performance is improving so much faster than men's that it is very possible they will be competing on equal terms in a generation". But he doesn't agree with the theory that "women fashion designers are taking over from the men who once predicted what women would wear".

Mrs Aburdene and her husband predict that spending time with the family rather than at the office or exotic conference locations will become a status symbol. Mr Tyrell and Mr Dyckhoff agree but Mr Dyckhoff says that it is still easier for senior women to admit they are taking time off to take their child to the doctor or to attend a school sports day: "If Bill says he is leaving early because of his children the word gets round that Bill is not 'one of us'."

But in Europe men, Mr Tyrell believes, are still winning on most fronts. "In America feminism is still very much about women occupying the commanding heights," he says, "which is probably the most sensible route, since it is only by gaining power that you gain the power to change things. In the UK you've got more of this revisionist strand which says: 'Don't put the pressure on women, let's build up a pride in the traditional roles.' I think that's the way feminism is going in Europe, and I suspect it will preserve a man's world."

● Women in Management *can be obtained by sending a business card to Spencer Stuart, 16 Connaught Place, London W2 2ED.*

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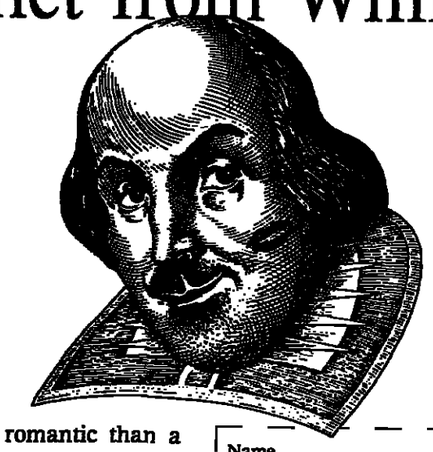

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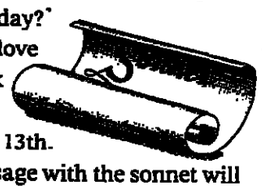

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Please stay sisters, sisters

LIBBY PURVES

Baleful news, girls. Yesterday morning a newspaper style section, noted for having its finger so firmly pressed to the pulse that it actually hurts, formally announced the advent of the newest essential accessory. And believe me, this one is going to be more trouble than any of the others. Weird clothes you can give to the Salvation Army when the fad passes, personal trainers may be sacked, and even designer babies go to school in the end. But this latest essential item in a girl's armoury is trickier than that. It is, apparently, another girl.

And you have to flirt with it and lie with your head in its lap and hold its hand in public and murmur that "no man can satisfy a woman the way a woman can". For the beautiful and chic females of the capital, it is made plain, gay is where it is at.

The films *Basic Instinct* and *Dracula* have made lesbianism cosmetically appealing, and now — according to this style guru — everyone who counts is at it. "The smart Sloane, the supermodel, the glamorous TV presenter and the glossy magazine editrix" all play footsie with one another in restaurants and wear matching tight velvet catsuits. And there is no point in the rest of us hiding our heads in the sand and pretending it won't catch on in Selly Oak. You know how it is with these style fads: they spread. Think of patterned leggings.

If the Sunday pulse-presser is right, it can only be a matter of time before girls are snogging in every chip queue in the land. Already Joanna Trollope has written a novel about a woman who has a passionate affair with her childminder, a plot which utterly outraged all decent-thinking mothers because, when the affair fails, the lover flees heartbroken to America and the heroine has wasted a perfectly good childminder. No sense of priorities, some women. A worse career move than sleeping with your agent, even.

I suppose there are advantages to this new stylish lesbianism. It solves the safe sex problem, is indubitably contraceptive, doubles the available choice of clean tights of a morning and saves you ever having to listen to anybody talking about cricket. But this, apparently, is not the point. Like the "political" lesbians of the 1970s women's movement, these girls are not necessarily homosexual by deep, serious, painful personal inclination. They are doing it, as it were, by numbers. You match yourself up with a woman who is "the right look for you" and double your impact at the Groucho club by gazing into her eyes. You give the chaps a frisson without even having to look at them. You win all ways.

Quite apart from the implied insult to those women whose homosexuality is not elective or stylish but something that lies too deep for posing, I reckon these gay deceivers are doing nobody a favour. Me, I propose to stand out heroically against the trend. Let any "glossy magazine editrix" lay a finger on my knee and I shall scream and scream. Should a "glamorous TV presenter" lure me into her cutting-room to swap catsuits, I shall be found with my back against the VT deck, selling my honour dearly with a hatpin. I have, you see, been here before. I know the landscape, and have seen its pitfalls and bleaknesses. Its real crime is that it endangers that otherwise most calm, benign, tolerant and relaxed of human relationships: loving friendship between women.

It first happened in my second term at university, and I cannot think of her without a pang of regret for the fun she was once. She was my best friend, a considerable wit with whom I spent many happily sexless hours sprawling around eating crumpets and setting the world to rights. One day she ripped off, as it were, her false whiskers and declared eternal passion. I did not return it, although I would have given her my last crumpet any day. We stayed friends for years, but with a new constraint.

After the shock wore off, the main feeling was of insecurity: suddenly, half the human race looked different and what mothers used to call Not Safe In Taxis. Hard to accept when you have only just sorted out the business of men: at our ancient universities a girl grows quite resigned to great male minds being attached to wrinkly old hands which wander, and you develop strategies for forcing the daft old goats to listen to your views on Shakespeare instead of staring down your cleavage. The thought of extending this instinctive vigilance to one's own sex was dispiriting. In the next few years several other gay (sometimes only politically gay) women made the same attempt, and always it plunged me into the same gloom.

Each pass raised the same terrible, timeless question as it does with men: was she really interested in my views on Shakespeare or did she just Want Me For My Body? Besides, even if the woman is not predatory, a too obvious gay orientation raises uneasy self-awareness in her ordinary friends. The prospect of having to put on mascara and suck in one's tummy for a drink with a girlfriend is ruinous to any sense of comfort. Not only women feel this: I remember a kind, liberal man friend discovering that a squash partner was gay and saying anguishedly: "Oh God, I suppose I'll have to shave on a Sunday morning now. Since he's a *noticer*."

Friends of the same sex, one always hopes, are not "noticers" in quite that way; or at least if they are, they don't take your dishevelment and odd socks personally. That is part of their charm. Stay sisters, sisters, if you know what's good for you.

هكذا من الأصل

Mr Smith pinstripes Paris

Paul Smith will be the most coveted label next winter, reports **Kathryn Flett**, the editor of the men's magazine *Arena*

It has been a good year, so far, for Paul Smith. In early January the designer showed his winter collection to an appreciative audience in Florence at the Italian menswear trade gathering *Pitti L'Uomo*; ten days ago he showed again in Paris and that evening celebrated the opening of his St Germain store — a little piece of Paris that is forever England.

It is not very often these days that the British fashion industry gets the opportunity to wave the Union Jack on the international stage, but in Paul Smith we have every reason to feel very proud indeed: in Paris not only did Smith arrive, he conquered.

In stark contrast to the women's couture collections in Paris, the men's ready-to-wear collections are far from a grand gathering. Achieving the balance between showmanship — keeping the press and buyers entertained — and displaying skill in mixing the essential ingredients of cut, tailoring and proportion are the hallmarks of a successful menswear designer. Paul Smith achieved that balance.

Smith styled a show which mixed the fun and funky with the sober and restrained, often in the same outfit. Pinstripe suits with long, lean jackets and narrow pants worn with slim striped shirts in acid brights, cut to hug the body, teamed with short striped ties, were dandyesque without resorting to fancy dress. Suits in black velvet, or midnight-blue devorre (distressed velvet), with loud, luxuriously embroidered multi-coloured, or pearly king, waistcoats were winners; while jackets in coloured tweeds or bold checks teamed with cropped jeans and shirts, a sumptuous selection of leather and some beautiful knits in vibrant shades, all hit the mark. These are clothes that are both wearable and directional and in menswear that is the highest praise.

At Yohji Yamamoto we were also treated to the pinstripe renaissance, but from a very different tack. Cropped baggy trousers, in pin and chalk stripes, with turn-ups, were teamed with slim cut jackets over stripy tops and heavy shoes, to achieve a Chaplin/Keatonesque silhouette.

Exacting proportions meant that Yohji never strayed into nostalgia. Three-piece suits teamed with large hats and bootlace ties also worked well, while the colour combinations in his windowpane checked suits — lime, orange, and purple — and striped velvets were arresting without straying into silly territory. Less successful were the fussier tailored jackets with too many buttons, cutaway tail coats, and oversized box jackets which looked more Max Wall than Charlie Chaplin.

"May you live in interesting times", runs the ancient Chinese curse. "May you live in interesting clothes", might well be Rei Kawakubo, at Comme des Garcons', contemporary edict. Comme des Garcons shows have always been one of the high spots of Paris menswear, but this season Kawakubo failed to live up to *expectations*. Comme clothes are always a challenge: Kawakubo plays with fabric and cut in a way few menswear designers dare, and the results are often spectacular.

> Smith mixed the fun and funky with the sober and restrained, often in the same outfit

This season, however, she showed a collection of lightweight, rumpled (occasionally pinstriped) suits that had been treated to something which, to the untutored eye, looked like a cross between dip or tie-dyeing, and bleaching. In fact Kawakubo has perfected a process which strips away colour while retaining the structure of the fabric. But the results, executed in sombre tones — browns and greys, chocolate, mustard, burnt umber and indigo — on baggy suits with the cropped trousers we saw on almost all the catwalks, complete with hook and eye detail on the jacket vents, were less successful than one might have hoped.

At Jean-Paul Gaultier it is always easy to be distracted by the styling — this season a sort of swaggering, urban Eric The Viking look — but underneath the bluff and bluster there are always a selection of immaculately tailored suits and separates that prove that the man is a master of his art.

This season's suits, in cords and tartans, houndstooth, tweed and plain wools, with long jackets and skinny trousers or plain kilts, teamed with long sweeping coats, were wearable and desirable. Tailored wool all-in-ones — belying the description "catsuit" and reminding me of a look the British designer Joe Casely-Hayford showed a few years back — were only for the young and paunchless. But the inevitable cropped trouser with sizeable turn-ups, tweed suit with corduroy front and caped coats and jackets, need not be worn with the lurex skinny ribs or the bulky sheepskin style sweaters Gaultier teamed them with in a bid to look more Longships than Longchamp.

The jackets and coats decorated with every conceivable stitch and tailoring trick (complete with label — apparently in Hebrew — on the outside) were a witty and ironic reference to the tailor's art, to be worn only by the witty and ironic.

Dirk Bikkembergs, the Belgian designer, showed womenswear alongside his men's for the first time, but there was not much, apart from the scale, to choose between them. Bikkembergs sent his boys and girls out in endless selections of black leather trousers and cream ribbed knits with biker boots. Cropped jeans with deep turn-ups we had seen almost everywhere, likewise baggy jumbo cord and matelot sweaters. Few surprises here.

His compatriot, Dries van Noten, also showed womenswear alongside a ragtaggle gypsy collection of menswear that left this viewer unimpressed. Sensible corduroy and oversized cardies that looked like something your auntie might knit; roomy tweeds and box jackets with crumpled jeans in downbeat shades lacked an essential edge.

At Matsuda all the references we had seen throughout the collections came together on one catwalk, to mixed, but always diverting, effect. The Chaplin/urchin look, inventive knitwear in bulky, bright combed wool, the omnipresent baggy turned-up trousers which will doubtless make it on to the high street in more manageable proportions, plus something hovering between a pair of fisherman's trousers and a pair of chaps, as well as some sober(ish) suiting. If the styling was occasionally distracting there was much at Matsuda that made sense. While at Issey Miyake the balance between crisp and effortlessly wearable tailoring and a strong direction for winter 1993 was also achieved.

Over at Hermès, those with a lust for the finest leathers will also be satisfied. Here a pair of fine cream suede breeches managed to look like an essential addition to the modern male wardrobe.

At the end of the day, however, the plaudits go to Paul Smith. Whether it is the cutting edge of contemporary tailoring, or something a little more escapist, next winter Smith is your man.

TOP LEFT: DISTRESSED LOOK OF **COMME DES GARCONS** ABOVE LEFT: MIXED-UP **YOHJI YAMAMOTO** CENTRE AND TOP RIGHT: FUN WITH FUNKY **PAUL SMITH** ABOVE RIGHT: WIT OF **JEAN-PAUL GAULTIER**

ARRESTING: **YOHJI YAMAMOTO**

HOTLINE

When the shoe fits

FRUSTRATING trips to the men's and children's footwear departments can end by visiting The Tall & Small Shoe Shop. A specialist women's shop for more than 25 years, it stocks difficult-to-find adult English sizes, small (13½ to 2½) and large (8½ to 11½). The Tall & Small Shoe Shop, 71 York Street, London W1 (071-723 5321).

Sizeable handbags

FRANCHETTI Bond has designed a range of handbags, stylish and large enough to hold A4-size folders and documents. Each bag is waterproof and specially treated to be mark-resistant. Wallets, purses, belts and key rings are also featured in the collection. Prices range from £19.50 to £165 from Franchetti Bond, 7 Burlington Arcade, Piccadilly, London W1, and 5 Lion and Lamb Yard, Farnham, Surrey.

Westwood is honoured

VIVIENNE Westwood, the doyenne of British fashion, has always created fashion ahead of its time. A retrospective exhibition, "Vive le Punk", celebrating Ms Westwood's and Malcolm McLaren's collections from the King's Road shop Let It Rock, Too Young To Live Too Young To Die, Sex and Seditionaries, opens at The Chamber of Pop Culture, The Horse Hospital, Colonnade, Bloomsbury WC1 on Thursday and runs until Saturday, April 10. Closed on Mondays, the exhibition is open from 12 to 6pm Tuesday to Sunday with late night on *Thurdays until 8pm. Admission is* £3.50 (£2.50 concessions).

A jewel of an auction

THE Pot of Gold for Somalia Appeal, launched last October by The British Red Cross, has raised unusual donations: Sinead O'Connor has given her £500,000 house in Los Angeles and Elton John, Dire Straits and Phil Collins have all donated silver and gold records.

The best items will be auctioned at The Savoy, London, on February 14. Items are still needed and jewellery should either be taken to the nearest branch of Phillips the auctioneers, or sent direct to Pot of Gold Appeal, 9 Grosvenor Crescent, London SW1X 7EJ. Auction tickets cost £20 and can be bought from The British Red Cross (071-245 1000). Credit card donations can also be made on the same number.

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Matthew Parris

■ Dishonest people still pretend that decolonisation was good for all the countries Britain left behind

No disrespect to the Ulster Unionists, but their Commons interventions often have a predictable quality; so it was refreshing last week to witness an unusual outburst from their leader James Molyneaux. He was questioning the defence secretary:

"Will he give an assurance that Her Majesty's forces will be used primarily for the defence of Her Majesty's subjects ... and not for the recolonisation of territories from which Britain was forced to withdraw prematurely by critics at home and abroad who are now standing on their heads?"

Hooray! Jim Molyneaux has broken the taboo. He has said out loud what all the world must secretly know: that for most of the *underdeveloped* countries, independence has been a disaster.

Molyneaux realises, as we all do, that there is no going back; but he expresses what every Briton with a colonial upbringing has been thinking with increasing frustration these past 25. *Thinking and yet somehow not saying* — or not with any confidence.

Why not? For Mr Molyneaux *did make one* mistake: those critics of colonialism at home and abroad are not *standing on their* heads. They are still with us, still perfectly upright, still lecturing us on "new perspectives in development economics", still failing to link the calamity of the Third World with the failure of decolonisation. Many are still in government, in the Lords, in university professorships, or working in relief agencies.

Where are the journalists who wrote admiring profiles of the Nkrumahs, the Nyereres and the Kaundas who have turned their countries' economies into road accidents? Where are the British politicians who ministered to the self-esteem of the post-colonial Third World monsters? Still with us. Still writing profiles, still in politics, still dictating their self-satisfied memoirs. They are *not* standing on their heads.

And they ought to be. Somebody should be grabbing them by the ankles and forcibly placing them on their heads. Somebody should be shaking them violently. Somebody should be allowing us the luxury of hearing them squeal.

Heaven knows, we deserve it, we whose lives started in what was then the *British Empire. We remem*ber our youth. We remember being sneered at by people who consider themselves modern — because we clung to a belief that the empire was good for its subjects.

We remember the relentless efforts the United States government put into undermining the morale and security of British colonial administrations all over the world. We remember the propaganda pumped ceaselessly out by US media in the cause of what was called "freedom", "independence" and "one *man one vote*". We remember the role of "the American Libraries", in British possessions. We remember the contacts that *US diplomats cultivated* among those who agitated against colonial rule. Nobody ever speaks about these things now.

I *came to* university in Britain after an upbringing in Cyprus and Africa. I found that it was considered unthinkable at Cambridge *to argue that* decolonisation had been premature. Yet that was 1969. Our liberated colonies were already failing and what (the then) Sir Hugh Foot called in one of his books "A start in freedom", had come, in so many nasty little one-party states, to a gruesome halt.

Poor Africa. Does anyone now really believe there is hope for the "newly" (except not so newly) independent African countries? Does anyone seriously deny that with most the only question is the relative pace of descent into *poverty* and barbarity? Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Uganda, Tanzania, Somaliland ... Oh, *the* list goes on, and the people starve, and the bodies float down the African rivers, and it brings tears to my eyes to remember all those open, smiling African people of my youth — what has happened to them? Does anybody say they are better governed by their politicians than their parents were by us? No, nobody says anything. We look at the pictures on television and we shrug our shoulders. To those of us who are white occurs a shameful thought that is undeniably there and which we never quite can banish: "Well," we think, "it's a matter of them doing these awful things to each other. It isn't the same as if we were doing it to them."

> 'The only *question* is the relative pace of descent into poverty and barbarity'

We. Them. "We can't impose our values on them." The great racist lie at the centre of Western liberalism. The great sophisticated lie which in the century *ahead will kill, maim,* starve, rob and beat to death tens of millions more Africans than the primitive little lies of Afrikaners ever did.

Colonialism, too, had its "we" and its "them" but the relationship between those two words carried obligations and brought contact. *Once, "we" imposed our* values on "them". And it was better when we did. Once, "we" knew "them" and they knew us. Now we *live in different worlds and* it is incomparably worse for both. Those who were too blind to see that this was so should be on their heads, *now, and weeping.*

We are in two minds about adultery — sanctioning it while meting out dire punishments

A cruel Puritan at the pagan picnic

William Rees-Mogg

'In the rude market place, of Puritan Settlement, Hester Prynne, stood on the scaffold of the pillory, an infant on her arm, and the letter A, in scarlet, fantastic embroidered with gold thread, upon her bosom! It had the effect of the spell, taking her out of the ordinary relations with humanity and enclosing her in a sphere by herself ... under the leaden infliction which it was her doom to endure, she felt, at moments, as if she must need shriek out with the full power of her lungs, and cast herself from the scaffold down upon the ground, or else go mad *at once.*"

The Scarlet Letter, Nathaniel Hawthorne's tale of punishment for adultery in 17th century New England, was first published in 1850. Yet *the practice of putting* adulterers in the stocks seems to belong as much to the late 20th century as to the mid 19th or the mid 17th, and to modern secular Britain as much as to Puritan *Massachusetts.* In the last year or two, the scarlet A has been pinned to a number of eminent lapels, in the royal family, in the government, in the law, even in the press.

The objective is the same as it ever was. It is to punish the adulterer by shame, to destroy a civic reputation, however good, and to enjoy the hypocritical pleasure of singling out a handful of victims from what is, nowadays, a regiment of adulterers.

We are not, after all, living in the age of religion. It is true that the sixth commandment, in Exodus, states that "thou shalt not commit adultery"; that injunction is repeated in the New Testament and in the Koran. Practising Jews, Christians and Muslims do believe that adultery is a grave sin, whether committed by a man or a woman. Yet the concept of sin has lost much of its strength, even among religious people; outside those who practise their religion there is perhaps only a vague residual belief that adultery is usually wrong.

In 17th-century Massachusetts, most people believed that adulterers would go to Hell; hardly anyone thinks that in the Britain of the 1990s. *It is one thing to put people in* the pillory for an act which risks their immortal souls and another to tabloidise them for an act which would not even exclude them from being invited to a church fête.

Many modern people do not in fact think that adultery is wrong at all, though it may be sad. Modern secularist morality is purely relative. "Thou shalt not kill" is not an absolute commandment; it is acceptable to kill where the balance of social convenience supports it, as with unwanted embryos and the terminally ill. "Thou shalt not commit adultery" is seen as an equally relative commandment; it is for instance acceptable to commit adultery if the marriage has broken down. Some people see adultery as a positive good; they regard sexual pleasure as a main purpose of human existence, and think that there can hardly be too much sex, or with too many people. They consider faithfulness in marriage an unacceptable restraint on the freedom of the individual.

In yesterday's *Sunday Times*, there was published the first extract from Michael Medved's striking new book, *Hollywood vs America*. He argues that "tens of millions of people now see the entertainment industry as an all powerful *enemy*, an alien force that assaults their most cherished values and corrupts their children. The dream factory has become the poison factory. Many people cherish the institution of marriage and consider religion an important *priority in life; but the entertainment* industry promotes every form of sexual adventurism, and regularly ridicules religious believers as crooks or crazies."

The powerful influence of Hollywood, and through Hollywood films, of television, is exercised in favour of adultery. If we must pin the scarlet A anywhere, it has to be on the film industry. Yet this makes the contrast in Britain between a permissive sexual culture and a censorious public morality even harder to reconcile. The prime minister feels obliged to sue the *New Statesman* in circumstances that few prime ministers would have thought to justify legal action. Yet there has never been so large a number of people who would attach so little significance to the innuendo the *New Statesman* professes not to have made.

Our dominant ideology, a pretty *inadequate* one, is post-Enlightenment popular rationalism, the ideology of the average television presenter. Our secular morality is largely based on naïve neo-Freudianism and our sexual technology is based on the Pill. Our entertainment industry has been *infected by a sick nihilism.* These are all anti-religious forces and they influence all of us, whether we choose it or not. Why do we nevertheless retain one of the cruellest attributes of a Puritan religious culture, the public desire to humiliate adulterers, to shame them for their sins?

The condemnation of adultery was never simply a religious prohibition. It has appeared in most cultures, though usually with a bias in favour of men. In the native American cultures, the penalty for adultery by a wife was sometimes mutilation, to make her unattractive to future partners. In the ancient Indian laws of Manu, an unfaithful wife shall be "devoured by dogs in a place frequented by many". That has a modern media ring to it. Solon, the wise lawgiver of Athens, allowed any man to kill an adulterer he had taken in the act. Roman law allowed the husband, or in some cases the father, of the woman to kill the adulterer, or where that was *inappropriate*, to imprison him for 20 days.

In Roman law, the concept of adultery by the husband seems to have been introduced only after the arrival of Christianity; before that, a wife owed a legal duty of fidelity to her husband, but he did *not* owe one to her. As recently as 1857, British law regarded adultery as grounds for divorce in women, but not in men.

In literature, it is Shakespeare's *Othello* we should look to. Desdemona is falsely accused *of adultery* by Iago. Othello believes the lie and kills his wife. He finds he has been deceived and kills himself. His motive is not religious; he does not kill Desdemona because *he thinks* adultery is a *mortal* sin, he does so because he is jealous.

Shakespeare always takes us closer to the truth. The reason that human beings in a post-Christian age still attach so much importance to adultery, and behave so cruelly to adulterers, is that it affects the most fundamental human emotions. It does so just as much *in late 20th* century Britain as in ancient Rome or still more ancient Palestine.

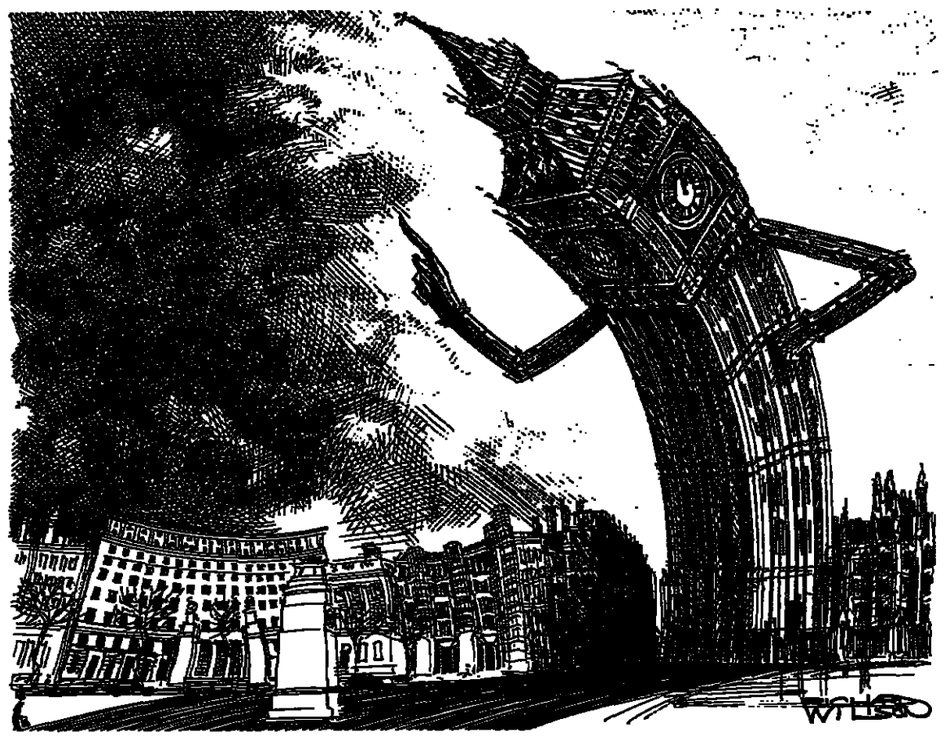
The Ten Commandments are in accord with permanent realities of human nature. *Adultery is a threat* to our deepest emotional security and therefore we wish, at least symbolically, to stone the adulterer. In this, as in other ways, modern secularism is psychologically superficial. *In theory,* we belong to a new age in which human liberty is the supreme value, and that includes the right to take as many sexual partners as we choose.

In practice, if our marriage is threatened, we fight to protect it. If our partner is attracted elsewhere, we feel fury and despair. There is a pretence that human nature has changed, *but the old Adam and* Eve still live inside us all. We therefore behave badly to those public figures who have been adulterous. Christianity is not the cause of this cruelty — *and cruelty it is — but the* defence against it. It was Christ who said: "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her."

We have released the forces of paganism at our *peril. The pagan at* our right ear tells us that adultery is quite acceptable for us in this modern age. But the pagan at our left ear tells us that all adulterers must be destroyed.

Rise of the puppetocracy

Commons select committees should know their place, says Peter Riddell



Constitutional reformers and conservatives alike are cheering. Lord St John of Fawsley is no doubt warbling in Cambridge. Parliament is at last flexing its muscles against the executive. Select-committee reports are making the headlines. MPs' views seem to matter. These celebrations of parliamentary power should not, however, be taken too far.

Checks and balances are obviously desirable, particularly when one party has been in power for nearly 14 years. Local government should be strengthened and Whitehall opened up. But Parliament can never control government in a detailed way and it never has.

The main role for the Commons is to sustain a government in power. Since 1868 that has meant translating votes at elections into the choice of which party holds office. The primary job of MPs is to support or oppose the government, while forming the pool from which ministers are chosen. *Scrutinising the executive is second*ary. The Commons has, in Bagehot's famous phrase, sought to "express the mind of the English people". Question time may seldom be edifying, but *ministers regularly have to explain* their actions. The Opposition may rarely win votes but it can ensure that the issues of the day are raised.

Reformers have seen all this as *largely an empty piece of theatre,* with MPs glorifying in grease paint and slogans. Instead, the Commons should seek to control the executive, as it allegedly did in the past. That *has been the belief of the more naïve* supporters of departmentally related select committees. Not only was there never such an age of parliamentary control, but select committees in *Britain can never be like congressio*nal committees in Washington. The *separation of powers in America* means that a committee chairman often has as much influence as a cabinet secretary. Lloyd Bentsen may have had more say over tax changes *as chairman of the Senate finance* committee for six years than he now has as Treasury secretary.

Select committees in Britain are bound to have the more limited role *of scrutinising rather than initiating* policy. Tory MPs will always be constrained by their primary duty as supporters of the government from taking a wholly independent line. *Committees cannot be a form of* alternative opposition, advocating their own policies.

Moreover, many of the most talented MPs are excluded because *they are either ministers or shadow* spokesmen. By convention the latter do not serve. MPs also willingly give up places on committees to get on the *first rung of the ladder of preferment* as parliamentary private secretaries. Being an unpaid bag-carrier and aide to a minister is more alluring than serving even on the Treasury or *foreign affairs select committees.*

More than 200 MPs are therefore ruled out. Once the old, the odd and the idle are also excluded, this leaves a limited group of former ministers, new members eager for promotion and perpetual backbenchers. These are not automatically among the best and the brightest at Westminster, though some chairmen, such as Terence Higgins, David Howell and Frank Field, have earned respect for their committee work. Last week's otherwise thorough and sensible Hansard Society report on improving the way laws are prepared and discussed was unrealistic in urging an expanded role for select committees. There are not enough interested and talented MPs to do the job.

The output of the committees has also been patchy. Their main impact *has been in broadening public de*bate by taking evidence from previously silent civil servants. Hidden areas of Whitehall have been illuminated. The resulting reports have, however, often been too influenced by the committees' advisers or by special interests. Too often also there has been a desire for a snappy headline or sound bite.

Ministers often ignore what committees say, even while paying lip service to their importance. Kenneth Clarke dared to utter publicly what other ministers say privately in evidence to a Lords enquiry in 1991. The Commons committees, he argued "tend to have enthusiasts on them and they get in the hands of lobbyists". He recalled the row over salmonella in eggs, when "all the members of the select committee were trying to do was to get themselves into the newspapers".

By all means let select committees scrutinise and point out weaknesses in existing policies — as the trade and industry committee did over the government's approach to the coal *industry.* Over the next year or so there will be a role for committees in scrutinising the top-to-bottom review of public spending, examining long-term projections and comparing the views of outsiders with the Treasury. That would enable a proper public debate to occur. But spare us government by select committee. That is a recipe for inertia and muddle.

Similarly, some of the fashionable delight over the revived power of backbenchers is exaggerated. A government majority of 21 is a constraint, more so than in the past because of the greater independence (or, if you prefer, bloody-mindedness) of many MPs. Ministers are having to pay more attention to public opinion as expressed by MPs. That was too often absent in the 1980s when ministers could usually ignore all but the most volcanic eruptions in the Commons. Now even the rattling of a window causes alarm in Downing Street. A few Tory MPs, however maverick, can extract concessions by threatening revolt.

The danger, however, is that the *tail may wag the irresolute dog.* The government may refrain not just from daft measures such as the poll tax, which could not be enacted in the present Parliament, but it may also not undertake necessary, tough and unpopular actions, of the kind that will be required over public spending and taxes. What we have now is not a return to an illusory golden age of Parliament, but all the uncertainties of a weak, minority government.

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

Rules of engagement

ALMOST 20 years after Harold Wilson brought in guidelines in an attempt to censor the memoirs of ministers and civil servants, the regulations are to be reviewed by Douglas Hurd.

The Radcliffe rules were introduced by Wilson in 1976 because he was so incensed by Richard Crossman's autobiography. The rules advise authors to submit their manuscripts to the Cabinet Office for approval.

Tony Benn, Barbara Castle and Roy Jenkins were the only members of Wilson's cabinet to refuse to sign an undertaking to comply by the rules, and duly wrote their memoirs without reference to the cabinet secretary. The rules also stipulate that civil servants cannot publish their memoirs until 15 years after their retirement, and the foreign secretary has decided to act because of the delay in publication of the memoirs of Sir "Nico" Henderson, British ambassador to Washington during the Falklands war.

A draft was submitted in 1990 and the Foreign Office expressed reservations. Henderson, who refused to amend it, has been in regular correspondence with Hurd ever since. "Douglas Hurd has told me that he is now reviewing the length of time before publication is allowed. He acknowledges that it is unfair that I should be penalised while ministers are writing their memoirs. I know the guidelines cannot be enforced but my career was in the foreign service, and I feel bound by it, however priggish that may seem." Henderson not only has much to say about the Falklands but he was closely involved in foreign policy in the post-war years.

Outspoken figures such as Sir Bernard Ingham have published their memoirs, although Ingham's were heavily censored by Sir Robin Butler, the cabinet secretary. The review is timely for Henderson. Had he not been summoned out of retirement in 1979 by Mrs Thatcher to be our man in Washington, he could have published next year, whatever the outcome of Hurd's review.

● *John Birt will not like the letter in* Ariel, *the BBC staff magazine, praising the previous cover photograph showing the new director-general from behind. "With your fingers on the pulse of BBC morale you realised that since everyone wanted to see the back of John Birt it would be a good idea to print a picture of it. Anon, name withheld in terror."*

Bridge too far

HAVING presided over a retail empire, and due to open another restaurant next week, Sir Terence Conran is still not content. He is about to go into the ferry business.

Port, Sir Terence

Necessity is the mother of this initiative. Conran wants to set up a ferry across the Thames to sustain business at his three restaurants south of the river when Tower Bridge closes in April for six months for repairs. Custom at the Blue Print Café, Pont de la Tour and La Cantina is threatened and Conran is enraged by the decision of the Corporation of London.

"The bridge is the main link to Butlers Wharf. Most of our customers have to use it. There has been no consultation or offer of compensation. We have put some money into the river bus. We are now investigating the possibility of running a ferry service."

Meanwhile, Conran, who will be virtually living at his new 400-seat restaurant Quaglino's in St James's, was taken aback by the criticism sent in his direction by Richard Shepherd of Langan's Brasserie. "I often eat there myself," Conran says. "In fact, at the opening night I ended up manning the glass washer for three hours and my son worked in the kitchen because they were short staffed."

Between the lines

MELVYN BRAGG, who with Dame Judi Dench, Fay Weldon and Beryl Bainbridge is fighting to save six of Camden's 12 libraries from closure, has a personal motive. Bragg, addressing a packed meeting of campaigners at Heath Library in Keats Grove, revealed that books helped him recover from a nervous breakdown in his early teens.

"I had a very bad nervous breakdown which I did not know I was having and I couldn't tell anyone," he says. His results at school went from *near the top of the class to close* to the bottom. "Only now at the age of 53 am I able to begin to talk about it," he says.

The way he managed to break free from the illness was through solitary walks in the Cumbrian countryside, and by losing himself in books. "Reading fiction was helpful because it was a takeover bid. It took you out of yourself in a way that was tolerable."

Bragg, a paid up member of the Labour party — the local party is proposing to shut the libraries — was determined that other youngsters would not be denied the same escape route.

● *Joan Collins, the star of the latest Rover Metro advertisement on television, is unlikely to be spotted driving one through Hollywood. Collins, who arrived on the film set in San Diego, California, in the back of a six-door stretch Cadillac before taking the wheel of the Metro GTi, cannot buy one in the United States. They are not sold there.*

Sex symbols: Paxman, left, and Hislop are on the list

TV and crumpet

● **Jeremy Paxman, the scourge of the politician, has been voted the "thinking woman's crumpet" in a survey for *City Limits* magazine. Paxman, the anchorman of *Newsnight*, is described as "blustering, boorish, fearsomely arrogant and ferociously brilliant — too darn sexy for words", in the survey.**

President Clinton is second, Vic Reeves the comedian is third and Lord Owen strikes a blow for the mature man at fourth. The most unlikely sex symbol in the league of 20 is Ian Hislop, the small and follically challenged editor of *Private Eye*. There is not a Chippendale in sight.

Meanwhile Sir Anthony Hopkins has won another award to go with his Oscar for *Silence of the Lambs*. He has been voted the best dressed man in Britain by *Esquire* magazine. John Major also won an award, in the worst dressed section, for his "lack of inspirational style". Grey is obviously out of fashion.

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A GOOD DUMPING

European diversity must survive name-calling from France

Lord Tebbit has hinted that Tory Eurosceptics could best scupper the Maastricht Treaty by joining forces with Labour and bringing Britain back into the treaty's social chapter. This is a tempting idea which may find friends well beyond the frustrated backbench tacticians who have to fight the government night after night in often fruitless parliamentary debate.

The social chapter is a farrago of bureaucratic restrictions on competition and attempts to impose upon all European businesses the high taxes and overheads of the most burdensome regions and states. For the original authors of the Maastricht Treaty it was at the heart of the new European Union. Although John Major is proud of having negotiated an opt-out from these provisions, it would still be fitting if he — and the larger number of less-thinking Euroenthusiasts in the Conservative Party — had to confront the fundamental contradictions between the conservative vision of a competitive, decentralised Europe and the corporatist federalism that the Maastricht Treaty is designed to advance.

Beguiling as it might seem, however, Lord Tebbit's strategy would not be acceptable. As a matter of principle it would be too cynical and destructive for free-market conservatives to try to push through Parliament a legislative amendment inimical to everything they have stood for in the past fifteen years. As a matter of practice Britain's interests could be damaged if there were seen to be the slightest fissures in the hitherto solid Conservative Party and business consensus against the social chapter in any form.

The benefits of that consensus are becoming more clearly visible almost daily as the devaluation of the pound enhances Britain's attractions as a low-cost, high productivity base for exporting to the rest of the European Comuntity. Last week's diatribes against British "social dumping" — made by such desperate men as Pierre Bérégovoy, the French prime minister, and Jacques Delors, the EC president — offer the clearest possible evidence that John Major's post-ERM policies are finally beginning to pay dividends. Britain's new economic policy "isn't working if it isn't hurting" France and other European countries which deliberately lumber their industries with overvalued exchange rates, high taxes and exorbitant social costs.

What M. Bérégovoy calls social dumping is the predictable and desirable consequence of a single European market. By pulling out of the ERM and exempting itself from the social chapter Britain will be in a position to undercut France, Germany and other northern European countries in terms of labour costs and interest rates, as well as offering both management and workers freedom to make contracts which they consider mutually advantageous. In an open market, investment and jobs will tend to move to countries with less intrusive government and labour regulations, as well as lower costs.

The great benefit of free trade is that it allows every country or region to oversee its own taxes, regulations, skills and social conditions and then lets businesses seek out the combinations that suit them best. With floating exchange rates and open financial markets, wages and interest rates generally adjust to ensure that every country's labour force is reasonably fully employed.

If the French and Germans believe that tight social regulations will improve their workers' productivity and ensure a degree of stability that businesses will find attractive, they should not complain if Britain chooses to forego these advantages. If, on the other hand, other European countries find themselves losing jobs to a less regulated and lower-cost Britain, it is up to their politicians and voters to decide whether their social and monetary arrangements need to be reformed. In either case, Mr Major should be thanked for offering corporatist Europe an alternative economic model, and one that it badly needs.

RAPE AND PUNISHMENT

Retribution as well as compensation must fit the crime

Judge John Prosser's decision to put a young rapist on three-years' probation and order him to pay £500 for a holiday to the victim has triggered outrage with resonances far beyond the case itself. This is hardly the first time that a sense of judicial proportion appears to have been lost when a court has sentenced a brutal criminal. If Judge Prosser's decision is to be overturned that is a matter for judicial review. But the damage to public confidence has already been done.

Last year, the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor, conceded that the manner in which criminals are punished lacks coherence. The Criminal Justice Act which came into force in October was driven by a practical desire to reduce the cost to the taxpayer of imprisonment and explore penal methods other than incarceration. Yet, less than six months later, the Home Office is already considering new secure detention centres for young teenage offenders, a clear contradiction of the act's spirit. This indecision reflects a general unease about how a just and tolerant society should punish its criminals.

Too often this debate is conducted evasively, along purely practical lines. Imprisonment, for example, is praised as a convenient means of protecting the law-abiding from the criminal; or it is attacked as a waste of public funds which pools criminal knowledge and hardens offenders' determination to re-offend. Neither argument addresses the moral content of punishment. There is an ever-present danger that penal policy will be little more than a social calculus in which value for money is the only value.

Every judicial decision in a criminal court bristles with moral and social assumptions. The modern doctrine of punishment seems to concentrate on the offenders themselves, their circumstances and how best the state can rehabilitate them. The debt they owe to society as a whole is treated as of less account. Judge Prosser declined to send the 15-year-old rapist to prison on the grounds that he was from "a good family" and might contract bad habits in a detention centre. A similar focus on offender rather than victim is evident in the interest of the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice in plea-bargaining, and in the new system of means-tested punishment, under which fines for burglary can range from £120 to £3,000 depending on the burglar's wealth.

The contrasting concern at this trend from groups such as Victim Support is understandable. Punishment should indeed be more than remedial work; it must reflect the nature of the crime committed and the pain suffered by the victim as much as the background of the offender.

But neither the repair of the criminal nor a court-ordered holiday for the victim is enough. Justice must include the element of retribution by the state. To proclaim this is not to yield to barbarism or restore Judge Jeffreys to the bench, but to give proper force to the morality which underpins the law. To exact limited vengeance from the criminal may help to assuage the victim's suffering. More importantly, it acknowledges that society has suffered a collective grievance which must be paid for.

This principle should be fundamental to a free society. To deny it is to deny the concept of criminality and reduce all crimes to civil disputes which may be settled by suitable compensation — in or out of court. The damage inflicted by brutal assault can never be corrected financially. Rape is a crime, not a tort.

TIES THAT BIND

Man abandons rules of dress at his peril

Ever since Adam and Eve had their eyes opened, and knew that they were naked, and sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons, civilised society has run by its dress codes. The resurrected Regent Hotel in London has now belched in the eye of civilisation by announcing that dress codes will no longer be enforced in its dining rooms. This evidently means that it will not be obligatory for men to wear ties and jackets and business suits, as it is in most similar London restaurants and clubs.

All dress conventions can be made to seem as ridiculous as aprons of fig leaves. In the long eye of history, a necktie is a silly thing, a primitive predecessor of the useful button. It may sound chic and modern for the Regent Hotel to declare that it is abandoning dress codes. But, of course, it is not doing so at all. Eve and Adam, in their natural state before their eyes were opened and they saw the polite, would not get a table in its dining rooms. They would be hurried away with their private parts concealed by napkins and confusion. Even customers in shorts and bathing suits from the hotel's swimming pool will be confined to their own particular eating place, where the customers come as raw as the hamburgers.

This is bogus liberalism. It is not abolishing convention, but merely drawing convention's line in a different place. It is always possible to mock the codes of polite society, as Edgar Allen Poe did, when he was expelled from West Point for following to the letter instructions to appear on a public parade in "white belts and gloves, under arms". He turned out with his rifle over his bare shoulder, wearing belt and gloves, and nothing else.

Civilisation means conforming to the current codes, when performing acts such as eating in public. Other societies, such as that of the Trobriand Islands, treat eating as a private affair, to be done secretly, but are less secretive than Western society at any rate used to be about their amorous activities. When in London, do as the Londoners do.

Part of the pleasure of eating in an expensive restaurant is that those in the public place conform to the current code of polite dress and behaviour. Any decent club or restaurant keeps spare neckties and jackets for difficult customers who arrive improperly dressed. And for those who slip through the net, the oldest member tends to wander over to the table and ask, meaningfully: "Does your guest find it very hot in here?"

It is a heresy of the old Serpent that anybody has the unlimited right to do what he or she wants in public. Members of society have an obligation not to annoy their fellow members unnecessarily. Civilisation can be held together by things as flimsy as ties.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Changed options for armed forces

From Major General Ken Perkins

Sir, Mr Malcolm Rifkind has bowed to what had been patently inevitable and announced that some of the planned army cuts will not now take place (report, February 4). As the cost is to be borne within the present defence budget, some elements, hitherto considered essential, will have to go.

Mr Rifkind has said difficult decisions remain. I suggest he should first look at his own ministry and then to the headquarters which report to it. The scale of these may be gauged by the number of two-star officers and above in active employment.

There is an admiral to every three ships, small and large. There are less than two combat units of battalion size for each general, and as many air marshals as there are operational squadrons of aircraft.

At a lower level come many more brigadiers, colonels and their equivalents and an army of staff officers measured in their thousands. Side by side marches a huge phalanx of civil servants.

Before someone explains why all these are essential, let me compare the arrangements when, on loan from the British government, I commanded the Sultan of Oman's forces in a counter-revolutionary war in the 1970s.

There were two British brigadiers for ten combat units. A British air commodore ran five operational squadrons of eight different types of aircraft and a Royal Navy captain operated some half dozen patrol craft.

We recruited, equipped, trained, administered and took the force to war. In addition, we had the operational command of three Iranian battalions and one from Jordan.

The operational standards we worked to were British and, if we did not have the wide-flung responsibilities which fall to the British forces, we had many headaches unknown in Whitehall. What is sure is that the British armed forces do not need their present top-heavy hamper.

Yours faithfully,
KEN PERKINS,
Carscombe,
Stoodleigh, Devon.
February 3.

From Lieutenant General Sir Martin Garrod

Sir, I was disturbed by your Defence Correspondent's report (February 4) to the effect that the order for the £170 million helicopter carrier (LPH) is expected to be cancelled and that ministers may also delay the construction of the assault ships to replace HMS *Intrepid* and HMS *Fearless*.

In 1981 John Nott, defence secretary at the time, announced that *Intrepid* and *Fearless* would be phased out in 1982 and 1984 respectively, as "likely needs did not warrant (their) relacement". Within a few months, as the Falkland Islands crisis unfolded, it was the nation's amphibious capability that was crucial to the retaking of the islands. I find it extraordinary that a similar miscalculation may be made a mere decade later.

The major advantage that an amphibious force confers is the ability to project a force into a hostile, or potentially hostile, environment *without reliance on ports or airfields*. An amphibious force poised off-shore as an earnest of intent can, if that is the political decision, project its landing force ashore anywhere over a 600-mile span of coastline within 24 hours.

But if it is totally reliant on landing craft, then it is totally reliant on beaches, which the enemy may well have covered with its own troops. An LPH with its helicopters gives the commanders an infinite number of choices as to where they can project the landing force, including up to 100 miles inland.

There may be many situations in future when we may wish to insert a force into a troubled area (the rescue of British nationals is but one example): but there will also be many dictators who, like Galtieri, may not permit us the use of ports and airfields at the time, in which case, without a properly constituted amphibious force, we would be powerless to act.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,
MARTIN GARROD,
2 Royal Buildings,
The Strand,
Walmer, Deal, Kent.
February 4.

Teachers and tests for 14-year-olds

From the General Secretary of the National Union of Teachers

Sir, Your leader of February 4, "English civil war", comes to the astonishing conclusion that this union's "credibility as a defender of pupils' interests is in tatters". That conclusion is based on the 91 per cent of our members who will have to implement this year's English tests for 14-year-olds saying they would support a boycott of those tests.

You pay no regard to the fact that 99.3 per cent of those teachers said that the planning and preparation of the tests by the School Examinations and Assessment Council (SEAC) had been inadequate; that 97 per cent said the timetable of notification of set texts and extracts had allowed insufficient time to prepare pupils for the tests; and that 95.7 per cent believed the tiered papers would not allow pupils to be assessed fairly.

This union is voicing our members' collective concern for pupils' education. It is not opposed to testing: but this must be in a form supportive of learning, such as that which has been agreed for Scotland.

We have tried on numerous occasions to talk to the education secretary about these concerns, and about the English tests in particular. Mr Patten will not talk and does not listen. It is the credibility of Mr Patten as the promoter of pupils' interests which is in tatters.

Yours sincerely,
DOUG McAVOY, General Secretary,
National Union of Teachers,
Hamilton House,
Mabledon Place, WC1.
February 4.

From Lord Griffiths of Fforestfach, Chairman of the School Examinations & Assessment Council (SEAC)

Sir, I was pleased by your forthright support of national testing at age 14, rightly emphasising the central importance of English to all children and to their learning in all subjects. You raise issues to do with our cultural heritage and economic future that are properly a matter of debate, not just for schools but for us all. This is why so much effort has gone into making sure that this year's tests are of the highest quality.

Claims by the National Union of Teachers that the tests have not been properly prepared are wide of the mark. Tests have been trialled over the last three years, with 40,000 14-year-olds in large numbers of schools in most local education authorities in England and Wales. The particular model of tests being used this summer is firmly based on pilot tests taken by over 100 schools in June 1992.

To suggest that the introduction of these tests has been mismanaged is wildly inaccurate. Every effort has been made by SEAC to prepare teachers for these tests. Detailed guidance on the assessment of English has been published in stages over the last 12 months, to a carefully planned timetable notified to schools in advance.

The National Curriculum, on which the tests are based, has been in schools since 1990. Teachers have known since last autumn which Shakespeare plays or other texts are being tested. They have known for five months that pupils would be preparing a small selection of texts from an anthology. It was always intended that this should be used immediately before the tests and not dominate the whole year's curriculum.

National tests for 14-year-olds provide parents and teachers with invaluable information about what children have learned during their first three years at secondary school. They pinpoint areas in which remedial action could be needed during GCSE courses. It is difficult to imagine how any responsible professional body could wish to deprive children and their parents of the benefits of this information.

Suggestions that the tests will damage children are quite implausible. The benefits are already beginning to show. Greater numbers of pupils than ever before are studying and enjoying Shakespeare. Through the anthology they are introduced to authors who have made a major contribution to this country's literary tradition, such as Chaucer, Keats and Wordsworth. The tests will give them a new incentive to practise and improve their use of standard English.

The benefits of national testing are now obvious, both at seven, where there have been national tests since 1991, and at 14 where tests were held in mathematics and science in 1992. The first national tests for 14-year-olds in English, which have always been scheduled for June 1993, will go ahead as planned.

I have every confidence that pupils will take these tests in their stride and that parents will welcome the information they will receive about their children's achievements in relation to national standards.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN GRIFFITHS,
Chairman,
School Examinations & Assessment Council,
Newcombe House,
45 Notting Hill Gate, W11.
February 5.

From Mr David Matthews

Sir, Your leading article is wrong to describe the English standard assessment test at key stage three as "a vital qualification". How is it possible for an exercise which tests, as the recently distributed pattern papers show (report, January 7), an appreciation of language through multiple-choice questions, and a critical understanding of *Romeo and Juliet* by matching a quotation to a cartoon, to be that?

"Stultifying" would be a more apt adjective.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID MATTHEWS
(Head of English),
Archbishop Tenison's School,
Selborne Road, Croydon, Surrey.
February 4.

Future of royal yacht

From Mr A. M. D. Bell

Sir, You report (January 28) that the future of the royal yacht *Britannia* is under review. I suggest that the successor vessel could serve a dual purpose as a refrigerated cargo carrier, with a payload of, say, 3,000 tonnes, which could also be used for royal travel when required.

There are precedents for this. *Britannia*'s hull design and machinery is based on two Harwich-Hook ferries, *Arnhem* and *Amsterdam*, built in 1947 and 1950 respectively. In 1953-4, before the royal yacht was ready, a cargo passenger ship, *Gothic*, (11,000 tonnes payload) was used for an extensive tour of the Commonwealth, concurrently carrying UK cargo to New Zealand and a full refrigerated cargo back.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW BELL
(Managing Director),
Curnow Shipping Ltd.,
Porthleven, Helston, Conrwall.

From Mr James Rusbridger

Sir, It is untrue that the royal yacht *Britannia* was unable to take part in the Falklands war because it used heavy fuel oil as your reporter states. The task force flagship, HMS *Hermes*, also used this fuel, and there was plenty of tanker capacity with the fleet which drew supplies of heavy fuel oil from the vast stocks held at the old naval base at Simonstown, in South Africa. Furthermore, as a hospital ship, *Britannia* could have refuelled at Montevideo when it was landing casualties.

As far as the Gulf war was concerned, cost was hardly a factor influencing the coalition forces' plans (especially as they were repaid by the Arab states). The expense of fitting a helicopter deck to *Britannia* is a most unconvincing excuse.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES RUSBRIDGER,
Jasmine Cottage,
Tremerebridge,
Lanivet, Bodmin, Cornwall.
January 28.

Balkans diplomacy

From Mr David Leigh

Sir, Sir Clive Rose (letter, February 1) suggests that our role in the former Yugoslavia should be limited, primarily on account of our previous inadequacy: "But we did not go to war with Germany in 1939 because of the Nazi concentration camps . . ."

However, it is exactly because we did not adequately respond to the atrocities of the Reich that we should take a more active role on this occasion.

Does Sir Clive for ever intend to abrogate responsibility, on account of our failure to act over Auschwitz? Or is this not an opportunity, if an unfortunate one, to set a better precedent?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID LEIGH,
C1 Whewell's Court,
Trinity College, Cambridge.

From Major General J. D. Lunt

Sir, Sir Clive Rose asks what the Muslim countries are doing to support the UN in the former Yugoslavia. He says only Egypt has so far contributed. In fact Jordan has had a contingent serving under the UN for the past nine months or more.

I am etc,
JAMES LUNT,
Hilltop House,
Little Milton, Oxfordshire.

Hospital beds

From Professor Emeritus Philip Rhodes

Sir, *Social Trends* (details, January 28) shows that the numbers of patients treated in hospitals was rising and the number of beds falling long before the present marketing strategy in health care was introduced. Can Mrs Bottomley be persuaded to stop claiming for her recent policies results which are clearly not due to them?

Yours sincerely,
PHILIP RHODES,
1 Wakerley Court, Wakerley,
Oakham, Leicestershire.

Brief interruption?

From Mr Russell Basker

Sir, Mr Frank G. Gee's thought (letter, January 27) that through legal aid an offender's solicitor is being paid for by the very people he has attacked can be taken a stage further.

A few years ago my partner, Charles Elly, now deputy vice-president of the Law Society, was a 24-hour duty solicitor under the legal-aid scheme.

He received a telephone call from the police in the middle of the night to say they had been asked to summon him to the police station by one of his clients whom they were holding on a charge of breaking and entering.

The officer said: "Before you come down sir, we also have to inform you that we actually caught him in your office premises". Charles Elly very sensibly stayed in bed.

Yours faithfully,
RUSSELL BASKER,
Reynolds, Parry-Jones & Crawford
10 East Street,
High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire.

Freya Stark biography

From Mr David Gould

Sir, The storm over the controversial biography of Dame Freya Stark (Diary, January 21; Modern Times, January 22; Books, February 4) has prompted me to look through my scrapbook and re-read "The qualities needed to escape from mediocrity" — a beautifully written article that appeared in your columns on August 28, 1967. In it Freya refers to several writers of genius and to the then prevailing lack of Excellence (with a capital E). "Something failed," she wrote, "not in them, since the seed of perfection was in them, but in the climate of their time".

Twenty-five years later, the climate of our time seems avid for the unsavoury. I shall curb my curiosity and ignore the new biography. I am content; all that I need to know is contained in the eight volumes of letters and the enchanting travel books, which speak so eloquently.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID GOULD,
Highcroft,
South Woodchester, Gloucestershire.

From Mr H. St. J. B. Armitage

Sir, Mrs Molly Izzard's decision to "tell the truth" about Dame Freya Stark is somewhat marred by her doubts about her subject's journey to the Valley of the Assassins being aroused by her (Mrs Izzard's) late husband's remark that the journey "was a touristic excursion even in 1930" (as quoted by Libby Purves, "An explorer explored", January 22).

This is a ridiculous assertion: Miss Stark's journey, including two passes over 10,000ft, was by mule and foot, long before a motorable track existed. There is record of only one European traveller from an earlier generation and but a handful of official European visitors in the preceding decade.

Nor is there any truth in Mrs Izzard's description of Miss Stark's second journey to the Hadhramaut as ending in her "collapsing again and being evacuated by car". In fact, she travelled 18 days by donkey and camel before completing her journey to Aden by dhow.

Yours faithfully,
H. St. J. B. ARMITAGE,
The Old Vicarage,
East Horrington, Nr Wells, Somerset.

Passive thinkers

From Lord Harris of High Cross and Lord Porritt

Sir, Even if all that is said against smoking were true, it could hardly justify so grave an invasion of fundamental freedoms as outright censorship, in the process denying newspaper readers of a £50 million subsidy from tobacco advertising (letters, February 4). But would such a curb influence the total demand, rather than the shares of rival brands in a static or declining market?

Again, even if commercial advertising were as potent as weak-minded observers suppose, paid advocacy by the tobacco companies (incorporating official health warnings) is clearly swamped by a ceaseless anti-advertising barrage of gratuitous advice, appeals, exhortations, sermons, and other persuasion and propaganda.

On "passive smoking", scrutiny of all the relevant research confirms commonsense disbelief in the lethal potency of environmental tobacco smoke in concentrations as low as one part in a thousand, or a million, or a billion parts of surrounding air. The most exhaustive analysis of 30 epidemiologic studies (many based on as few as a dozen or two cases) was recently conducted by three doctors, including a professor of medicine, and published in the independent American magazine, *Consumers' Research*, in 1992.

The authors conclude: "None of the studies reports a strong relative risk (of cancer)". While only six of the studies approached statistical significance, nine pointed to a negative correlation between getting cancer and "spousal smoking". The authors' mild conclusion: "Unfortunately, scientific data have not always been utilised objectively by government agencies or regulatory bodies that have their own inherent public health or political agenda".

More bluntly, "passive smoking" turns out to be the product of pseudo-science playing upon passive thinking. Let those tempted to do nothing against this latest threat to free choice beware of the even greater dangers from passive politics!

Yours etc,
RALPH HARRIS,
ARTHUR PORRITT,
House of Lords.

Correct cooking

From Ms Tiggy Burford

Sir, Mrs Joan Brinham (letter, February 5) suggests the title *Little Red Lentil* for the politically correct publisher. Oh, dear me, no, Sir! It would have to be *Differently Sized Red Lentil* to stand a chance.

Yours faithfully,
TIGGY BURFORD,
Nottawasaga, Pennypot,
Chobham, Surrey.
February 5.

Business letters, page xx

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM
NORFOLK
February 7: Divine Service was held in West Newton Parish Church this morning.

The Rev Canon George Hall preached the Sermon.

Mr Richard French had the honour of being received by The Queen when Her Majesty invested him with the Insignia of a Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order.

Mrs French was also received by The Queen.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 6: The Princess Royal, Patron, Scottish Rugby Union, accompanied by Commander Timothy Laurence RN, this afternoon attended the France versus Scotland International Rugby Match, Parc des Princes, Paris, and was received by Her Majesty's Ambasador (His Excellency Sir Christopher Mallaby).

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 6: The Princess of Wales today visited Cardiff and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for South Glamorgan (Captain Norman Lloyd-Edwards).

Her Royal Highness attended the Wales versus England Five Nations Rugby Match, Cardiff Arms Park.

Captain Edward Musto RM was in attendance.

Funeral

Mr Hugh Robinson

The funeral of Mr Hugh Robinson took place at the Grosvenor Chapel, South Audley Street, on Thursday, February 4. The service was conducted by the Bishop of Gibraltar in Europe and lessons were read by Mr James Robinson, Mrs Deborah Stebbings and Mr Keith Millar. Among those present were:

Mrs Hugh Robinson, Mr Christopher Robinson, Mr James Robinson and Mrs Susan Robinson.

Mrs Peter Adams, Mr and Mrs Owen Alsher, Mr and Mrs D Angelopulo, Mrs Paris Back, Major Keith Barlow, Mr Richard Bateman, Mrs Geoffrey Bed, Mr and Mrs Peter Benson, Sir Archie Birkmyre, Bt, Viscount and Viscountess Bridgeman, Mr Charles Buckeridge, Mr and Mrs David Burroughs, Lord and Lady Carbery, Mr William Carrigan, Mr Michael Clayton, Mr Anthony Copeman, Sir Malby Crofton, Bt, Mr Kenneth Crosthwaite, Mr Patrick Crosthwaite, Mr Perry Crosthwaite, Mr Peter Davis, Mr John Denison, Mr Bingham Dore, Mrs Gerald Draper, Sir Edward and Lady du Cann, Mr James du Cann, Sallie Lady du Cann, Mr and Mrs Colin du Cann-Crowther, Lady Duncan-Sandys, Mrs Genevieve Eckenstein, Mr Alan Elsom, Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Haag, Mr Peter Hart, Mr Clifford Henderson, Mr Jonathan Hill, Mr and Mrs Richard Hodges, Dr Trevor Hudson, Mr R Johnson, Mr and Mrs Clement Keevil, Brigadier Humphrey Kemball, Mr and Mrs Lloyd Thomas, Mr Glen McCorquodale, Mr George McWatters (also representing Sir Patrick Sargeant), Mr and Mrs John Maddocks, Mr and Mrs Brian Marsh, Mrs Keith Millar, Mr Anthony Mescock, Mrs Marti Murchie, Mr Christopher Perrott, Mr Rob Phillpson-Stow, Mrs Douglas Pirie, Mr Tim Prast, Mr John Price, Mrs Lesley Pritchard-Gordon, Mr Gavin Pritchard-Gordon, Mr Grant Pritchard-Gordon, Mr and Mrs Harold Quitman, Lady Rees, Major General Sir Roy and Lady Redgrave, Mr Brian Rhodes, Mr Martin Riley, Commander and Mrs Gerald Selous, Mr Anthony Sheridan, Mr and Mrs Graham Sherren, Mr and Mrs Richard Smith-Wright, Mr Sam Soames, Mr and Mrs Peter Trumper, Mrs C Trusted and Mr R Uzielli.

Appointment

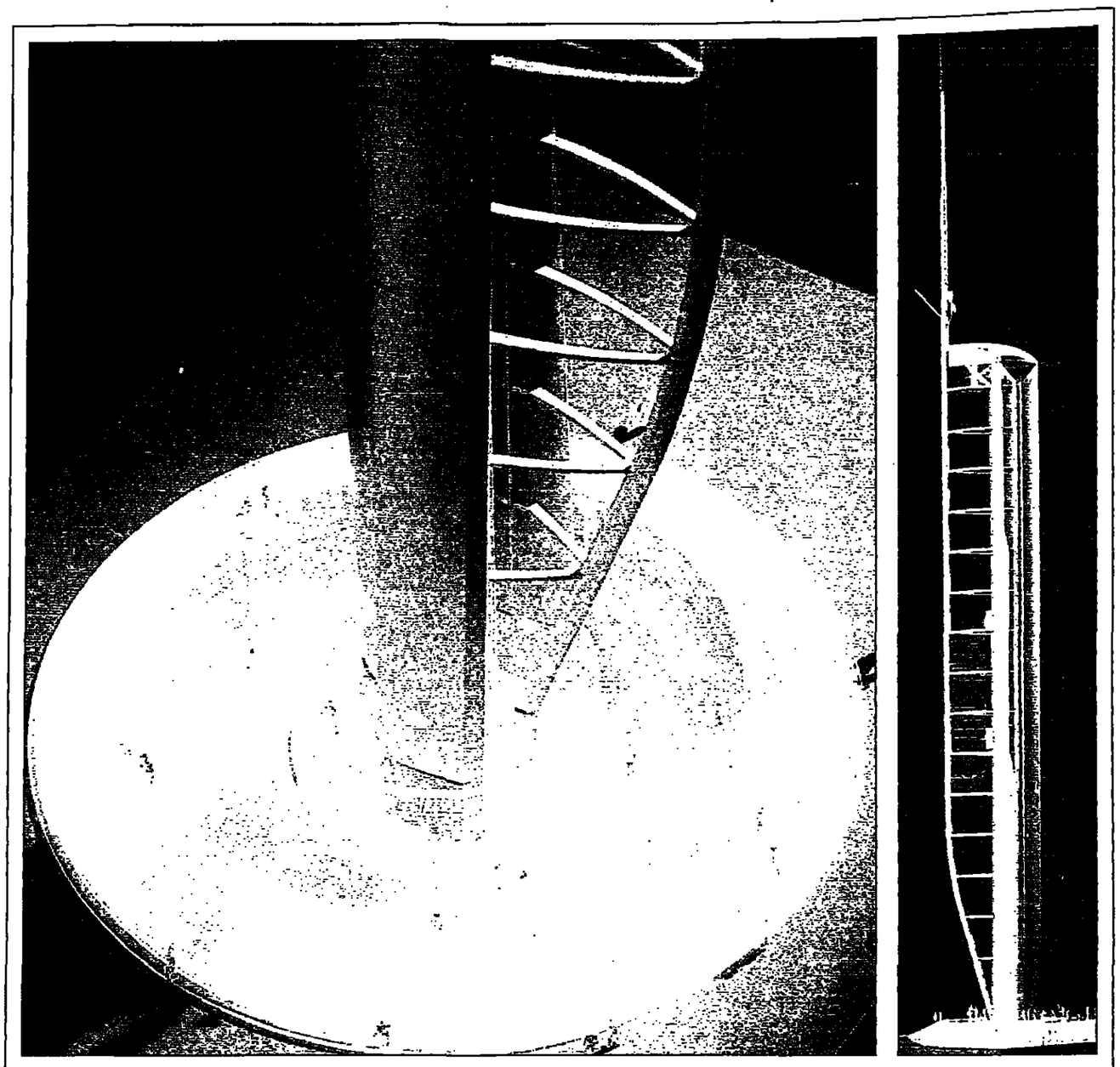
Sir Terence English, former President of the Royal College of Surgeons, is to join the Audit Commission for a three-year term.

Birthdays today

Lord Cameron, KT, 93; Professor Averil Cameron, ancient historian, 53; Mr Osian Ellis, harpist, 65; Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Martin Gilliat, royal equerry, 80; Marshal of the RAF Sir John Grandy, 80; Mr Harman Grisewood, former chief assistant to the director-general, BBC, 87; Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton, 78; Lady Howe of Aberavon, former deputy chairman, Equal Opportunities Commission, 61; Lord Jakobovits, 72; Mrs Diana Ladas, former headmistress, Heathfield School, 80; Professor Ann Lambton, former professor of Persian, 81; Mr Murray Lawrence, former chairman, Lloyd's, 58; Mr Jack Lemmon, actor, 68; Miss Morag Macdonald, company secretary, Post Office, 46; Sir Francis McWilliams, Lord Mayor of London, 67; Sir Kenneth Maddocks, former governor, Fiji, 86; Lord O'Brien of Lothbury, 85; Mr Alexander P. Papamarkou, international financier, 63; Dr June Paterson-Brown, former chief commissioner, Girl Guides Association, 61; Lord Rayne, 75; Lord Revelstoke, 82; Dame Laurie Salas, 71; Sir Richard Southern, former president, St John's College, Oxford, 81; Mr G.J. Strowger, former managing director, Thorn Electrical Industries, 77; the Rev Dr John Tudor, superintendent minister, Westminster Central Hall, 63; Mr John Williams, film score composer, 61.

Royal Caledonian Ball

The Royal Caledonian Ball will be held on Thursday, May 6, at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London, W1. Ball Tickets are £50.00 each to include wine, whisky, fruit juice and cooked breakfast. A limited number of Dinner Tickets are available at £20.00 each for 3-course dinner with ½ bottle wine. Please apply to The Secretary, Mrs R.H. Tym, The Old Manse, High Street, Stockbridge, Hampshire, SO20 6EX. Tel 0264 810363.



Towering vision: a revolving 100 metre high tower, right, shaped like a giant slim rudder and pointing to the sky, will commemorate the millennium in Glasgow (Marcus Binney writes). It will stand on top of a restaurant, above, whose glass roof will allow diners to watch it spin. The tower, chosen by competition from 350 entries is the work of London architect, Richard Horden, and engineer Peter Heppel, both keenly interested in yachting technology. The steel tower is a lightweight structure weighing "no more than the rudder of the Queen Mary and taking advantage of shipbuilding skills on the Clyde," Mr Horden said. On calm days the tower will revolve continuously; on gusty ones it will turn into the wind. "Anemometers will measure the wind direction, assertain whether a wind shift is temporary or permanent and align the tower accordingly." Mr Horden said. School groups will be encouraged to book the viewing cabin at the top, which will contain instruments to study the weather and track satellites. The Glasgow Development Agency hopes to build the £5.2 million tower with a mixture of private and public funding, as well as possible support from the new national lottery. The tower will stand above St Enoch's Square in Glasgow. A selection of the millennium competition's other designs is on show at the Royal Institute of British Architects, 66 Portland Place, central London.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.P. Allinson and Miss G.R.P. Boorman
The engagement is announced between Rupert, son of Mr Colin Allinson, of Bath, and Mrs John Palmer, of Kirkmichael, Perthshire, and Geraldine, eldest daughter of Mr Edwin Boorman, of Wateringbury, Kent, and Mrs Merrilyn Boorman, of Linton, Kent.

Mr S. Aysoy and Miss K.E. Gordon
The engagement is announced between Sami, son of the late Dr Marcel Abravanel Aysoy and of Bayan Denise Abravanel Aysoy, of Istanbul, Turkey, and Kate Elizabeth, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Francis Gordon, of Knightsbridge, London.

Mr S. Galea and Miss L. Arundale
The engagement is announced between Simon, younger son of Dr and Mrs J. Galea, of Maidstone, Kent, and Kappara, Malta, and Linzi, only daughter of Mr D.W. Arundale, of Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts and Aspen, Colorado, and Dr J. Arundale, of Kensington, W8.

Captain R.C. Matthews and Miss F.J. Heggie
The engagement is announced between Robin Charles Matthews, The Light Dragoons, youngest son of Mr and Mrs R. Matthews, of Woking, Surrey, and Frances Joanna, daughter of Colonel C.A. Heggie, of Bovington, Dorset, and Mrs A.P.C. Stamper, of Winsford, Cheshire.

School news

Roedean
Roedean School is pleased to announce the following Scholarship Awards:

Junior Academic Scholarships
Katie Atkinson, Cumnor House School; Tai Goldsmith, Roedean.

Sixth Form Scholarships
Academic: Sarah Axtell; Minor Academic: Karen Chu, Carmen Chung, Jaimy Deol, Frances Edwards, Zoe Green, Tejal Patel, Melissa Perkins, Katherine Rich; Minor Academic and Music: Sophia Cheung; Minor Music: Rebecca Brown; Minor Art: Temitope Akindele; Minor Design and Technology: Susanna Ewing.

Future Dates
Open Mornings will be held on Saturday, May 1 and June 12, when the new Roedean Theatre can be viewed. The Old Roedeanians' Association Summer Reunion will be held at Roedean on Sunday, May 2. Details available from the School. (01273 603181).

Today's royal engagements

The Princess Royal will visit the Olympic Centre and Olympic Park in Manchester at 10.50.

The Duchess of Kent, as Patron of Age Concern, will attend a luncheon given by Tarmac at the Connaught Hotel at 12.40.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Robert Burton, scholar, Lindley, Leicestershire, 1577; Jean André Deluc, geologist, Geneva, 1727; John Ruskin, writer, artist and social reformer, London, 1819; William Sherman, Union general in American civil war, Lancaster, Ohio, 1820; Henry Walter Bates, naturalist and explorer, Leicester, 1825; Jules Verne, novelist, Nantes, 1828; Dmitri Mendeleyev, chemist, Tobolsk, Russia, 1834; Martin Buber, philosopher, Vienna, 1878; Dame Edith Evans, actress, London, 1888; King Vidor, film director, Galveston, Texas, 1894; James Dean, actor, Marian, Indiana, 1931.

DEATHS: Mary Queen of Scots, executed at Fotheringay Castle, Northamptonshire, 1587; Peter the Great, Tsar of Russia 1682-1725, St Petersburg, 1725; Aaron Hall, poet and dramatist, London, 1750; Robert Southwell Bourke, 6th Earl of Mayo, Viceroy of India 1869-72, assassinated at Port Blair, Andaman Islands, 1872; Berthold Auerbach, novelist, Cannes, France, 1882; R.M. Ballantyne, novelist, Rome, 1894; Prince Peter Kropotkin, geographer and anarchist, Dmitrov, Russia, 1921; William Bateson, biologist and geneticist, Merton, Surrey, 1926; Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, architect, London, 1960.

Memorial services

Lord Ashby
The Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University, the Master of Clare College, Cambridge, and the Pro Vice-Chancellor of Queen's University, Belfast, attended a memorial service for Lord Ashby held on Saturday at Great St Mary's, Cambridge.

The Bishop of Birmingham officiated and the Rev Dr Nicholas Sagovsky, Dean of Clare College, led the prayers. Professor the Hon Michael Ashby, son, read the lesson and Professor Sir Brian Pippard gave an address.

Colonel Sir Alastair Graesser
The Lord Lieutenant of Clwyd was represented by Colonel Peter Ormrod at a memorial service for Colonel Sir Alastair Graesser held on Saturday at St Mary's Church, Ellesmere, Shropshire. The Rev Philip Edge officiated. Mr Simon Graesser, son, and Mrs Lawton Phage, daughter, read the lessons. Mr Myles Denton-Clarke gave an address.

Mr Dan Maskell
A thanksgiving service for the life and work of Dan Maskell will be held at the Church of All Souls, Langham Place, London, W1, at 12.45pm on Monday, March 15, 1993. People are asked to be in their seats by 12.40pm. All are welcome to attend.

Lord Dowding
A thanksgiving service for the life and work of Lord Dowding will be held at St Clement Danes Church, The Strand, on Friday, March 12 at noon.

Professor Peter E. Corbett
A memorial service for Professor Peter Corbett, MA, will be held at The University Church of Christ The King, Gordon Square, London, WC1, on Wednesday, March 24, 1993, at noon. Would those wishing to attend please notify Miss R. Shaw, University College London, Gower Street, London, WC1E 6BT.

Church news

Resignations and retirements

The Rev Canon Ken Quine, Vicar, Belgrave St Peter, and an Honorary Canon of Leicester Cathedral (Leicester): to retire as from April 30.

The Rev David Webster, Vicar, Belmont (Durham): to resign as from January 31.

The Rev Patricia Webster, Parish Deacon, Belmont (Durham): to resign as from January 31.

Appointments in the Forces

Field Marshal Sir Richard Vincent became Chairman of the North Atlantic Military Committe in succession to General V Elde on January 21.

Royal Navy

CAPTAIN: C J Childs - MOD London 2.2.93; R G Kerr - MOD Bath 1.3.93; P J Pacey - MOD Portsmouth 26.3.93.
SURGEON CAPTAIN: D L Swain - Nelson 1.4.93.
COMMANDER: P M Flutter - NATO Greece 9.7.93; I A Gibson - Loan Oman 1.8.93; D B Habershon - NATO USA 16.7.93; P A Jackson - MOD London 30.7.93; G Marshall - RNH Haslar 6.9.93; R A N Palmer - RNAS Yeovilton 23.7.93.
SURGEON COMMANDER: E H M B Doyle - BF Gibraltar 14.1.94. CHAPLAIN: T Devamanikkam - Neptune 4.5.93.
Retirements
CAPTAIN: P L Jack - 20.3.93; R A Smith - 1.5.93. ACTING CAPTAIN: R Higgins - 26.2.93. COMMANDER: M Maddox - 25.4.93; W N Watson - 1.5.93.

The Army

Major General D F S Boring to be Colonel Commandant Royal Army Ordnance Corps from January 1 1993 in succession to Major General F W E Snead.
BRIGADIER: J M MacFarlane - To be DETSIAL 12.2.93.
LIEUTENANT COLONEL: C R Bradley RAOC - To HQ EDIST, 8.2.93; S F Thornton RAOC - To CDD Bicester, 8.2.93; P E O'B-Davidson-Houston Dert - To HQ ARRC 8.2.93; A D Forster R Signals - To be CO 2 Signal Regt, 12.2.93; R Broothroyde RA - To BATUS Main, 8.2.93.
Retirements
BRIGADIER: G Comin Late Dert, 10.2.93.
COLONEL: C I Sellars Late RCT, 9.2.93.
LIEUTENANT COLONEL: A Padwell, N A Johnson RAMC.

Royal Air Force

GROUP CAPTAIN: T P Burke - To HQ NATS 1.2.93; R Brumpton - To HQ RAFSC 8.2.93.
WING COMMANDER: S W Cadogan - To SC Bracknell 8.2.93; C R Hall - To HQSTC 8.2.93; R M Harris - To HQ RAFSC 8.2.93; P R Woolford - To Ordnance Board 8.2.93.

Marriages

Mr J.A.M.B. Campbell and Miss C.J. Denman
The marriage took place on Saturday at St Peter's, Evercreech, Shepton Mallet, Somerset, of Mr James Campbell, elder son of Sir Colin and Lady Campbell, of Kilbryde Castle, Dunblane, Perthshire, to Miss Carola Denman, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs George Denman, of Stratton House, Stoney Stratton, Somerset. The Rev Dr Richard Willcox officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Jack Greenly, Charlie Landale, Hermione Elwes, Laura Robson, Nicky Denman, Philippa Denman and Miss Davina Denman. Mr Mark Bullough was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr R.N. Gladstone and Miss N.L. Playfair
The marriage took place on Saturday at All Saints, Bale, near Fakenham, Norfolk, of Mr Robert Gladstone, younger son of Sir William and Lady Gladstone, of Hawarden Castle, Clwyd, to Miss Nicola Playfair, eldest daughter of Mr Forbes Playfair and the late Mrs Playfair, of Bale, Norfolk. The Rev Michael Ward officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Jack Gladstone, Sam Fryer, India Gladstone, Miss Kirstie Playfair, Miss Melissa Playfair and Mrs Charles Gladstone. Mr Philip Reynolds-Davis was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Captain A.C.J. McCord and Miss C.A. Airey
The marriage took place on Saturday, February 6, at the Royal Memorial Chapel, Sandhurst, of Captain Andrew McCord, son of Brigadier and Mrs M.N.S. McCord, to Miss Caroline Airey, second daughter of Mr and Mrs D.L. Airey. The Rev A.J. Heagerty officiated and the address was given by the Rev Canon J.G.M.W. Murphy, LVO.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Emma O'Flynn, Katie McCord and Chloe and Lucy Hilton. Mr Dominic Reid was best man.

A reception was held at Staff College, Camberley, and the honeymoon is being spent in Antigua.

Nature notes

The house sparrow

WITH the topsy-turvy weather, chaffinches began singing in Scotland last week, while most of them were still silent in southern England. However, the males are back in their territories everywhere, flying conspicuously round the boundaries. House sparrows are singing again, though their song is no more than a faintly rhythmical string of everyday chirps. Tree sparrows are still feeding in flocks on weedy patches of waste ground: the sexes are similar, both being like dainty versions of male house sparrows with a dark smudge on their cheek. Stock doves are starting to sing in the depths of the woods: they are smaller and bluer than woodpigeons, with no white on their wings or neck, and their song is a gruff double-coo.

Hazel catkins are swinging freely and turning from olive-green to yellow. There is a glint of silver on some sallow twigs, where the furry catkins have begun to open, and bluish-green leaves are out on the honeysuckle. In the copses, tufts of shiny green bluebell leaves are breaking through the earth, and the first flowers — which look more like small green seeds — are opening among the jagged leaves of dog's mercury.

DJM

TEL: 071 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

FAX: 071 481 9313

I am oppressed and poor: God, come quickly to me. You are my help and my deliverer: Lord, do not delay. Psalm 70:5 (REB)

BIRTHS

ATTRIDGE - On 18th January, to Nicola (née Spence) and Mark, a son, Richard Christopher Alan.

BARD - On January 19th, to Barbara (King) and Nicholas, a son, David Rex.

BAXTER-DERRINGTON - On January 3rd, to Kim and Peter, a son, Edward Patrick, a brother for Kit. Many thanks to all the staff at St Helier Hospital, Sutton.

BOYLE - On 29th January, to Elda (née Kalblan) and Toby, a daughter, Arabella Susannah Kalblan, a sister for Oliver.

COCKERELL - On January 20th at St Mary's, Paddington, to Anna (Lloyd) and Michael, a daughter, Isobel Claudia.

DUDGEON - On January 23rd, to Sarah (née Riley) and Murray, a daughter, Francesca Louise, a sister for Zoë.

FERRIS - On January 27th, at Kings College Hospital, London, to Brenda (née Hardman) and Colin, a daughter, Julia Catherine.

MANN - On February 3rd, to Annie (née Lesley) and Andrew, twins, a son, Jack and a daughter, Camilla, a brother and sister for Lucy and Daisy.

PATRICK - On January the 30th, to Jane (née Page) and Philip, a son, Hugh Philip, a brother for Christopher and Thomas

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

KNOWLING - In ever loving memory of Ellen, wife of the Rev. Dr. Knowling, Canon of Durham. February 8th 1914.

DEATHS

BARCLAY (McKINNEL) - Hazel Elizabeth Gemma, greatly loved wife of Richard, sister of David and mother of Nicholas, Simon, Charlotte, Jonathan and Toby, aged 65, died peacefully at home at Banbury House, Bradninch, Devon on 3rd February. Service of Thanksgiving at St Disen's Church, Bradninch, at 2.30 pm on Friday 12th February.

CARDEN - On February 4th peacefully at home, Lt. Colonel Sir Henry Christopher Carden, Bart, O.B.E., aged 84, much loved husband, father and grandfather. Private cremation for immediate family only. Memorial Service to be held on March 9th at St. Martin's Church, East Woodhay. No flowers. Donations, if desired, to 17th/21st Lancers, Regimental Benevolent Fund, or St. Martin's Church.

COONEY - On February 1st 1993, Carroll Trowbridge Jr. Beloved husband of Deborah, dearly loved father of Nicola, Suzanne and Judith. Service 2 pm Wednesday 10th February at The Chapel, Sherborne School. Enquiries: Grassby Funeral Service, Dorchester. Tel: 0305 262338.

GORING - On February 6th 1993, peacefully at Pendeen Convalescent Home, Midhurst, Freda Margaret, aged 87, widow of Major F.Y. Goring. The Royal Sussex Regiment. Following interment at West Hampnett. There will be a thanksgiving service at Midhurst Parish Church, on Monday February 15th at 3pm. Family flowers only, donations may be sent to The British Red Cross, St Ann's Hall, Midhurst.

DEATHS

JACK - On February the 5th 1993, at Wern Manor Nursing Home, Porthmadog, Gordon Daniel Jack M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S., Edinburgh, aged 74 years, of Harlech, Wales. Loved and loving husband, father and grandfather. Private cremation. No flowers please. Donations if desired to St Tanwg's Church Restoration Fund, c/o Gwyn Williams Funeral Director, 16 Ty Canol, Harlech. Tel 0766 780406

KENNEDY - John Stodart, On 4th February. Suddenly but peacefully in hospital. Much loved by Claudette and their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

KING - On January 31st 1993, Edith Mary BSc. DMG, (née Turner), aged 99 years, of Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands. Widow of Frank G.W. King, Technical Director of Dunlop Rubber Company 1936-56. She is survived by her son J.H. King, sister Mrs H. Sorrill, son-in-law J.W. Mawle, 4 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. Donations to the National Heart Foundation.

PARKER - On February 3rd 1993 after a sudden illness, Lorna Kathleen, aged 85 years. Sadly missed by Lois, Nikki, Jacqueline, Nicholas, Peter, Patrick and Catriona. Funeral Service at Reading Crematorium on Friday February 12th at 3 pm. Flowers or donations to The Council for the Protection of Rural England, may be sent to A.B. Walker & Son Ltd., 36 Elden Road, Reading.

PILE - On February 1st, peacefully in hospital, Dorothy Pile, M.I.M., F.R.S.A., Hon F.S.L.A.E.T., F.I.M.F., Hon F.I.S.M.E., aged 90. Sister of Eve and Aunt to Jane, Richard and Anthony. Funeral at Mortlake Crematorium on February 15th at 11 am. All enquiries to E.C. Mills Ltd., 88 Churchfield Road, London W3 6DH Tel: (081) 992-0467.

DEATHS

PLATFORD - Alan. On 1st February 1993, peacefully in the Harley Street Clinic, in his 74th year. Adored husband of Jill and much loved father of Lynn and Ruth. Grandfather of Sally and Jessica, great-grandfather of Eleanor, father-in-law of Gordon and grandfather of Allan and Jeremy. Greatly missed by his sisters-in-law and his brothers-in-law Phyllis, Helen, Ann, Arthur and John, his cousin Kathleen and by his nephews, nieces, cousins and friends. The funeral on February 4th 1993 was private.

POWYS - On 4th February, suddenly at home, Sally, aged 82 years. Beloved wife of Francis Llewelyn. Enquiries to Eason Funeral Services, Newell, Sherborne, Dorset, tel: (0935) 813479.

SHEEHAN - Kathleen, peacefully on 3rd February 1993, beloved wife of the late Patrick Sheehan of Mayfield, Elre and Romford, Essex. Devoted mother and grandmother. Rest in Peace.

SOWARD - On February 3rd 1993, peacefully at his home in Rotherfield, East Sussex, Richard Alan, aged 57 years. Beloved husband of Rosemary and devoted father of Anne and Julia. Funeral Service at St Denys' Church, Rotherfield, on Friday February 12th at 11am. Family flowers only. Donations to Cancer Research c/o Paul Byrom Funeral Services, Crowborough, tel: (0892) 665000.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

KAY - A Celebration of the Lives of David and Margaret Kay will be held on Monday 1st March at 12 noon at the Old Vic Theatre, Waterloo Road, London SE1. Those wishing to attend should send an SAE for tickets to: Kay Celebration, GKR, 32 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4JR.

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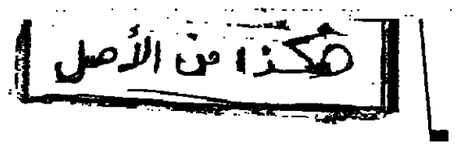

OBITUARIES

ARTHUR ASHE

Arthur Ashe, the American tennis player who won the Wimbledon singles championship in 1975, died on February 6 in New York of pneumonia resulting from Aids. He was 49. Ashe was born in Richmond, Virginia, on July 10, 1943.

IF HE was not among the truly great lawn tennis champions of modern times, Arthur Ashe will nevertheless be remembered with respect for his civilising influence on the game. As the first black man to achieve the heights he did as a player, he used his celebrity status to fight racism and was a pioneering figure in the advancement of Afro-American sport. His personal demeanour on court — and off it — set an example to young players in a game which was becoming increasingly bad tempered.

Arthur Ashe had a number of firsts to his credit. In 1963 he was the first black player to be selected for a US Davis cup team. In 1973 he defied South Africa's apartheid laws by becoming the first black man to play in the country's open championship. Finally — and his crowning achievement — he became the first black player to win the men's singles title at Wimbledon in 1975. He had won the Australian Open in 1970 and the US Open in 1968.

Ashe's victory at Wimbledon was the more piquant, even in a championship which thrives on surprise, for being so utterly unexpected. Jimmy Connors, who had brutally swept aside the aging Ken Rosewall the year before, was almost thought to have a natural right to the title. No one could stand against him. But through resourcefulness and guile, Ashe did just that, to record one of the most unexpected as well as most popular wins in the tournament's history.

In his early years on the international circuit, Ashe was often known as "The Shadow". Dark and skinny, he seldom packed more than 11 stone into his 6ft 1in. He was blessed with a droll sense of humour and did not mind the nickname, having learnt to live, from his childhood in Virginia, with far more wounding allusions to his skin colour. Moreoever, the sobriquet was always affectionate because there have been few players who inspired — and gave — as much respect and personal warmth. All who knew him will remember the man just as vividly as the achievements.

Ashe had mixed blood but, essentially, was a descendant of West African slaves. He followed, and built on, the example of Althea Gibson. Like her, he was no newcomer to the challenge of a segregated community. He had been brought up in one, and had learnt to live with racial prejudice and injustice. Ultimately, he broke down all the barriers and, by his example, paved the way for those who followed. In his youth, local tennis clubs and tournaments had no room for black players. Ashe and his kind had to look elsewhere for opportunities. As a result, he acquired a disciplined outward serenity and a composure that concealed any stress he might be feeling. The family's regular fish-

ing and deer-hunting expeditions helped to develop a sportsman's self-discipline and patience.

But Ashe also had an aptitude for study, which eventually steered him to the University of California in Los Angeles — and the intensity of collegiate coaching and competition. He emerged as a distinguished tennis player and a world citizen. He was a gentle, quiet, thoughtful man with a restless mind, intellectual leanings and an all-encompassing tolerance.

Ashe sprang to international prominence in 1968 when he won the inaugural US Open championship (the Open was the first competition to be opened to all categories of players, whether professionals, amateurs or shamateurs). That year, he won 30 consecutive singles matches in two months while supposedly serving as a lieutenant in the US Army. He also made news by changing his shirt alongside the court, with the referee's permission. Ashe was among the first players to wear coloured clothing, an example of his persistent knack of taking tradition by the scruff of the neck and shaking the nonsense out of it.

Ashe won the Australian singles title in 1970, Wimbledon in 1975. The Wimbledon final against Connors remains a striking testimony to his ability, his intellect and his self-discipline. As a player, Connors was on song. Indeed he was reckoned so formidable at that stage of his career that hardly anyone gave Ashe a chance, because he habitually played at a pace on which Connors thrived.

But on that day Ashe played a very different match from normal. He varied pace and spin, angle and trajectory. He broke up Connors's rhythm and gave him no pattern to respond to. Connors was confused and finally beaten — by an opponent unrecognisable as the Ashe he thought he had come to know.

To the astonishment of the Centre Court, Ashe took the first two sets 6-1, 6-1. Connors fought back strongly to take the third, 7-5, but Ashe found new reserves of ingenuity to end it in the fourth, which he won 6-4. Connors can have had few greater surprises in his own long and distinguished tennis playing career.

Ashe was lithe, with fast wrists. He could be inconsistent, veering between the dazzling and the commonplace. His service and backhand were often lightning fast. But he was no great volleyer and was often teased, in particular, about the deficiency of his forehand volley. The paradox about Ashe was that he was a quiet, cerebral man who played a brutally violent game. But he always enjoyed the mental challenge of playing on slow clay, especially in Paris. Although this type of tennis did not complimented his technique, it suited his nature.

Ashe was a modest man who never devloped the superstar aura and its accompanying carapace of tantrums which have become de rigeur in the contemporary game. On one occasion in Bristol a young woman approached him with a request for his autograph. At the time Ashe was the only black player of front rank and one of the very few, in any rank, who wore glasses, so he was not difficult to recognise. "I don't know who you are", the young woman said, "but would you please give me your autograph?" Ashe did not mind. He smiled, murmured something self-effacing and took care with his signature for this perhaps not most tactful of fans.

In 1971, however, after a semi-final of the US championship had been affected by rain, Ashe tried contact lenses, took to them and thereafter his bespectacled visage was never again seen on court.

Ashe was one of the founders — later, president — of the Association of Tennis Professionals. He was always an innovator — as a black champion, as a pivotal figure in organising professionals as a corporate body, and as a driving force behind the game's administrative evolution and related revision of the rules of play. He was also involved in a variety of business ventures and social and charitable work.

In 1979 Ashe's playing career was suddenly curtailed when he had a heart attack. He underwent quadruple bypass heart surgery and later announced that he intended to return to the game. But in 1980 he suffered a setback in his come-back plans and announced his retirement later that year. In 1983 he had further surgery, this time a double bypass operation. He continued to be unwell and in 1988 he had an exploratory brain operation. Finally, last year he announced that he had contracted Aids, presumably from a blood transfusion which he had received as he recovered from the surgery. It was a condition he bore with dignity to the end.

He had used the intervening years well. One tangible legacy of Ashe and all he stood for is his three-volume work, *A Hard Road To Glory* (1988), a history of black American athletes. Most of all, "The Shadow" will be remembered as a gentle man who was also a gentleman.

Arthur Ashe leaves his widow, Jeanne Moutoussamy, a photographer, and their daughter, Camera.

PROFESSOR WILLIAM MUSHIN

Professor William Woolf Mushin, CBE, Professor and Director of Anaesthetics, at the Welsh National School of Medicine, 1947-75, died on January 22 aged 82. He was born in London on September 29, 1910.

WILLIAM Mushin played a major role in transforming anaesthesia from a shaky art, almost wholly practised by GPs, to a scientific speciality which is now the largest in the hospital service. He also contributed greatly to pain relief, intensive care and resuscitation.

He went to Wales in 1947 from Oxford University, where he had been first assistant to Sir Robert Macintosh. His task, to found a new department, resulted largely from the concern of the Cardiff coroner about the excessive contribution anaesthesia was then making to deaths under surgery. After searching analysis, Mushin recommended that university and hospital authorities reorganise their services and suggested a rotational scheme for post-graduate training. He emphasised the need for research and pointed to serious deficiencies in obstetric anaesthesia and pain relief. After that, the anaesthetic services so improved that death from anaesthetic became unusual despite the fact that much more surgery was carried out on high risk patients.

In 1982 Mushin was chosen to lead a national study on post-operative deaths, and from this emerged the present National Confidential Enquiry, an audit which has won high praise from all over the world. From a situation in which there were few specialists in Wales, Mushin's trainees came to fill more than a hundred consultant anaesthetist posts.

The university chair to which he was appointed was only the second in the United Kingdom. From it Mushin put into practice his belief in the importance of the basic sciences — physics, pharmacology and physiology — to anaesthesics by appointing a physicist and a physiologist to his department. One of his first textbooks, *Physics for the Anaesthetist* (with Robert Macintosh, 1946, 4th edition 1987) is a classic.

Mushin's emphasis on a knowledge of gas flows and breathing circuits for clinical management, became even more important when artificial ventilation was introduced for cardiothoracic surgery. Outside the operating theatre it had a vital function in the period after the 1952 polio epidemic.

It had by this time become crucial to understand how the increasing number of lung ventilators could be assessed. Mushin's textbook *Automatic Ventilation of the Lungs* (1959, 3rd edition 1980) for the first time classified ventilators as well as analysing their interaction with patients with varying lung function.

This was an essential step for progress in intensive care.

Mushin spoke and wrote authoritatively in the debate which he initiated on the role of anaesthetics in intensive care. He disapproved of anaesthetists who were involved only at the technical level in operating a ventilator. In what was often a passionately-conducted debate he expressed his views in public and the medical journals with commendable moderation. In the United States he became the first non-American to deliver the prestigious Rovenstine Lecture to the American Society of Anaesthesiologists on "The Rise and Fall of the Anaesthetist". As a result of his initiative there was a great leap forward in the standard of intensive care. These days more than 90 per cent of intensive care units in the country are directed by anaesthetists.

Mushin was also a pioneer in the treatment of chronic pain, so helping those whom other doctors could not treat. At first, like others, he attempted only nerve blocks. But he soon realised that these brought limited success and began to teach the importance of reviewing the whole patient and offering sound, sympathetic support. He was a founder of the Pain Society and for his contribution was elected life president.

His research output focused, too, on drugs, in particular anaesthetics and analgesics, and his carefully executed work resulted in his appointment to the newly formed Committee on Safety of Medicines and, later, the Medicines Commission.

He led the speciality as Dean of the Faculty of Anaesthetists of the Royal College of Surgeons from 1961 to 1964. But he believed that as anaesthetics was not a branch of surgery it should have an independent academic organisation. He made his views widely known, with some trenchancy, and for some years the speciality was split. To his great pleasure, in 1992 a charter was granted to the Royal College of Anaesthetists through the sponsorship of the Royal College of Surgeons of England.

William Mushin was religious and had a lively conscience. He had become interested in Progressive Judaism, based upon his broad religious education and subsequent study. He was a founder member of the Reform Synagogue in Cardiff, attracted by the re-examination and re-affirmation of fundamental beliefs and principles in the context of present society.

He is survived by his wife, Betty, three daughters and a son.

JOSEPH L. MANKIEWICZ

Joseph L. Mankiewicz, American film screenwriter, director and producer, died in Bedford Hills, New York, on February 7 aged 83. He was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, on February 11, 1909.

THOUGH he spent most of his working life in the cinema, Joseph Mankiewicz's virtues as a film maker were essentially theatrical. He could orchestrate plot and character and, above all, he could handle dialogue. This was not surprising since he had begun in Hollywood as a screenwriter. If his pictures could be criticised for relying too much on talk and neglecting the visual possibilities of the cinema, they were often rescued by the quality of their screenplays.

At his best he displayed an urbane wit and an astringency that recalled one of his mentors, Ernst Lubitsch. Several of his films were adapted from stage plays, including *Julius Caesar*. With a distinguished cast which included John Gielgud as Cassius, James Mason as Brutus, and a magnetic young Marlon Brando as a Mark Antony of memorable intensity, it must be reckoned among the most effective attempts to bring Shakespeare to the screen.

Among his best films was *All About Eve* (1950), a brilliantly cynical picture of backstage rivalry, which owed much of its impact to an acid script and the playing of Bette Davis and George Sanders. It won Mankiewicz Oscars both for direction and screenplay. It was actually a triumph of Mankiewicz the writer over a palpably thin plot. But memorably waspish performances from the two protagonists helped him to a reputation as Hollywood's most intelligent and most literate director during the Fifties.

Joseph Leo Mankiewicz was educated at Columbia University. Like his elder brother Herman, he got his first job working in Berlin as an assistant correspondent for the *Chicago Tribune*. While Herman subsequently gained his entry to the film world as dramatic editor of the *New York Times*, Joseph started his career by translating the subtitles of German silent films into English.

In 1929 he joined the writing staff of Paramount in Hollywood. He soon graduated from dialogue and story adaptation to full screenplays. Among his many writing credits were *Million Dollar Legs* (1932), *Alice in Wonderland* (1933) and *Manhattan Melodrama* (1934).

In 1936 he became a producer, making an impressive debut with *Fury*, directed by Fritz Lang. Other notable productions were *The Philadelphia Story* (1940), *Woman of the Year* (1942) — in which he memorably brought together Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn for the first of their many screen tussles — and *The Keys of the Kingdom* (1945) from a novel by A. J. Cronin. This he also co-wrote.

He might well have remained a successful producer, but wanted to move into direction. He got his chance in 1946 when he took over *Dragonwyck* from the ailing Lubitsch. This and other early films — they included one made in Britain, *Escape*, from a Galsworthy play about a convict on the run — ocasionally got bogged down in words. But with *A Letter to Three Wives* (1949) he found a lighter touch. Consisting of three skilfully-played stories of suspected infidelity, it won Mankiewicz his first brace of Oscars as writer and director. For the next ten years he was to enjoy the reputation of being Hollywood's premier talent in both these spheres.

All About Eve, *Five Fingers* (1952) and *The Barefoot Contessa* (1954) — a slightly nonsensical tragedy about the transformation of a barefoot Spanish dancer into a Hollywood star, starring Humphrey Bogart and Ava Gardner — enhanced his reputation. *Julius Caesar*, distinguished by its respect for Shakespeare's text and by fine peformances from its principals, gave a certain gravitas to Mankiewicz's image in Hollywood.

Anne Baxter and, right, Bette Davis in *All About Eve*

In 1955 he directed his first musical, *Guys and Dolls*, with a stylised studio reconstruction of Damon Runyon's New York. *The Quiet American* (1957) was a not totally successful venture into Graham Greene territory. Greene's novel of struggle in Indo-China found itself being used to project a simplistic anti-communist message which was very far from its author's original purposes. *Suddenly Last Summer* (1959) was based on a one-act play by Tennessee Williams. It contained graphic ingredients, such as a homosexual rape and a threatened lobotomy on the beautiful and confused young heroine played by Elizabeth Taylor. They were considered strong meat at the time. The picture still does have a certain lurid power, though it was not then thought of as being among Mankiewicz's best efforts.

But his career by this time had a certain solidity about it and even merely partial successes had no power to detract from his reputation. It took the ill-starred *Cleopatra* (1963) to inflict really serious wounds on him. He was brought in to direct the film in 1962 after its original director, Rouben Mamoulian had resigned. Mankiewicz sweated blood, working day and night to rewrite the script and complete the shooting. But nothing, it seemed, could make any impression on a runaway colossus which was fated to be as well known for the off-screen amours of its stars, Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor, as for any intrinsic merits. Even Taylor was to call it "surely the most bizarre piece of entertainment ever to be perpetrated". This disaster — the film never recovered the $40 million it had cost — nearly put paid to Mankiewicz's career.

He made few films thereafter. *The Honeypot* (1967), a modern *Volpone*, was a return to stylish comedy. In 1970 he made his first Western, *There Was a Crooked Man*. An adaptation of Anthony Shaffer's stage success, *Sleuth*, filmed in Britain with Laurence Olivier and Michael Caine, rounded off his career on a high note.

His elder brother, Herman J. Mankiewicz, who died in 1953, was a Hollywood scriptwriter best known for his contribution to the Orson Welles film *Citizen Kane* (indeed, controversy still reigns as to how much Welles really did on the script).

Joseph Mankiewicz married, in 1934, Elizabeth Young; the marriage was dissolved in 1937. In 1939 he married the actress Rosa Stradner. She died in 1958 and in 1962 he married Rosemary Matthews. She and their daughter survive him, together with a son of his first marriage and two sons of his second.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS, TUESDAY, FEB 7 MR BRADLAUGH

... The hon gentleman who last addressed the House denounced him as a Socialist. He (Mr. Bradlaugh) thought Socialists the most illogical people on the face of the earth. If he was to be tried, let him, at least be tried for what he had done. It was said that he had brought all this upon himself, and that he had flaunted his opinions in the face of the House. That was not true. He asked the House to deal with him with some show of fairness. He had never, directly or indirectly, obtruded on the House any opinions of his own whatever, but it was said by the right hon. baronet that his taking the oath would be a profanation. (Hear, hear.) There had been occasions when the House had not been a party to the oath. The oath had been taken when no members were in the House at all. Did the House remember the occasion when Mr. Hall walked up to the table to take the oath after he had won his seat by deliberate bribery? ("Order, order.") The House cheered so that the words of the oath were drowned. It was impossible to hear the oath. Was not the House a party when John Stuart Mill took the oath? His (Mr. Bradlaugh's) opinions were not more objectionable than those of other members of the House. But it had been said that he had declared that the oath was not binding upon him. That was the very opposite to what he had declared. The evidence was all the other way. He had expressly stated before the Committee that any oath he took he should consider binding upon him; that he would take no oath unless he felt it so binding and that in taking the oath he should consider it as binding upon his honour and his conscience. With reference to asseveration, he felt that by taking an asseveration he was in no degree taking away the binding nature of an oath. He was ready to take the oath according to law. He would not take the oath without intending it to be binding on him; and binding it would be upon his honour and his conscience. Gentlemen who were ignorant of what was binding on honour and conscience—("Order, order:" "Withdraw")—those were his judges ("Order;" "Withdraw"). Hon. members who were ignorant of what was binding on the honour and conscience of the man before them must beware of those outside, for the ballot-box would say "Withdraw" to those who dared to infringe the rights of the Constitution as they would infringe it now. If he knew a form of words that would be binding, he would accept it, but he had been so hardly dealt with that he did not know that any form of words would carry conviction to the mind. Would the House allow him to take his seat? If not, they were doing that which was illegal and he would continue to assert his right to come to the table. To leave him to a part only of his right, and without any legal authority, was not generous. At present the law was on his side. If not, let them sue him or try the question by petitions ...

ON THIS DAY

February 8 1882

Charles Bradlaugh (1833-91), social reformer and freethinker, was elected for Northampton in 1880. On insisting on affirming instead of swearing on the Bible he was expelled from the Commons. His constituents re-elected him three times before he was allowed to affirm and take his seat in 1886.

COU

SANDRINGHAM NORFOLK
February 7: Divin held in West N Church this mornin
The Rev Canon preached the Sermc
Mr Richard Fr honour of being re Queen when Her M him with the Insign ant of the Royal Vic
Mrs French was The Queen.
BUCKINGHAM February 6: The Patron, Scottish accompanied by Timothy Laurence

Funeral

Mr Hugh Robinso
The funeral of M son took place at Chapel, South An Thursday, Februa was conducted by Gibraltar in Eur were read by Mr J Mrs Deborah Ste Keith Millar.
present were:
Mrs Hugh Robinso Robinson, Mr Jam Mrs Susan Robinso Mrs Peter Adams, T Aisher, Mr and M Mrs Paris Back, M Mr Richard Bater Bed, Mr and Mrs Archie Birkmyre, Viscountess Bridge Buckeridge, Mr Burroughs, Lord an William Carriga Clayton, Mr Anth Malby Crofton, Crosthwaite, Mr P Mr Perry Crosthwa Mr John Denison, Mrs Gerald Drapc Lady du Cann, M Saille Lady du C Colin du Can Duncan-Sandys, Eckenstein, Mr Al Mrs Geoffrey Haag Clifford Henders Hill, Mr and Mrs Trevor Hudson, I and Mrs Clemen Humphrey Kemi Lloyd Thom McCorquodale, M (also represent Sargeant), Mr Maddocks, Mr an Mrs Keith Mil Meacock, Mrs I Christopher P Phillpson-Stow, A Tim Pratt, Mr Jol Pritchard-Gord Pritchard-Gord Pritchard-Gordor Quitman, Lady I Sir Roy and Lady Rhodes, Mr Marti and Mrs Gerald Sheridan, Mr Sherren, Mr and Wright, Mr Sam Peter Trumper, M R Uzielli.

Appointu

Sir Terence Er dent of the Surgeons, is Commission fc

WITH the t chaffinches be land last week were still sile land. Howeve in their ter flying consp boundaries. singing again no more than string of ev sparrows are on weedy pat the sexes are like dainty w sparrows wit their cheek. ing to sing woods: they than woodpi on their win song is a gre
Hazel ca freely and green to yell silver on sor

TEL:

I am oppres come quic my help Lord. do Psalm 70

BIRTHS

ATTRIDG January. Spence) Richard
BARD - C Barbara a son, D
BAXTER- On Janu Peter, a s a broth thanks t Heller H
BOYLE - Elda (né a da Susanna for Oliv
COCKER 30th Padding and M Isobel (
DUDGEC 25rd. t and M France Zoë.
FERNS - Kings Londor Hardm daughi
MANN - Anale Andrev and a brothe and D
PATRIC 30th. Philip. brothe Thom

IN MI PRIV

KNOW mem Rev. Dr. Durhan 1914.

THE TIMES TODAY MONDAY FEBRUARY 8 1993

NEWS

Launching Labour for change

■ John Smith relaunched Labour as the party of the individual citizen and charted a future in which he intends that its traditional associations with state ownership, high taxation and union power will be buried for ever.

In a speech that delighted Labour's leading reformers and upset the traditionalist left. Mr Smith said Labour would win when it embodied the hopes of ordinary people .....Page 1

Back to the negotiations

■ Talks are to resume in Cape Town on Wednesday on a deal between the South African government and the African National Congress on delaying black majority rule until the end of the century. Agreement is reported to be close on the proposal that the country should be run until then by a black/white government of national unity.....Pages 1,11

Charges for drivers

Plans to charge motorists for using the existing motorway network are soon to be unveiled by John MacGregor, the transport secretary..... Page 1

Fighting talk

Nigel Short, Britain's chess grandmaster, returned from winning the right to challenge Gary Kasparov, and described his next opponent as probably "one of the most unpleasant people" in the sport..... Page 1

Raiders held

Two suspected members of an Irish terrorist group captured trying to break into a West Country explosives store are questioned by Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch..... Page 1

Boost for renting

John Major is planning a boost to private renting by allowing firms to compete for a large slice of the £2 billion allocated each year for the provision of low cost homes for rent..... Page 2

Survival plan

Eight months after announcing its own demise, London Zoo is poised to unveil an ambitious plan to turn itself into a centre for animal conservation and captive breeding that will enable the 166-year-old institution to survive into the next century as a visitor attraction..... Page 7

Cash incentive

Bonus payments for chief constables worth up to 30 per cent of their annual pay are being considered by the Home Office enquiry into police pay and conditions as part of a package for overhauling the force's flagging leadership..... Page 8

Plea for troops

Europe's defence ministers appealed to the Clinton administration not to make drastic or swift cuts in their forces in Europe, saying the Continent's security still depended on a substantial American military commitment..... Page 10

Maastricht moans

John Major's European policy was roundly rejected by the Conservative party's youth wing after a stormy debate in which defenders of the Maastricht treaty were booed and jeered ... Page 5

Patrols for Ulster

The reprieve of two infantry battalions announced last week will have a significant impact on the army's rota for Northern Ireland, but the strain of having six battalions on emergency duty in Ulster will still dominate army planning over the next few years..... Page 6

Deportees jailed

Israel took back five sick Palestinian deportees but said it had not abandoned the policy of expulsions in exceptional cases. An army spokesman said the Palestinians were flown by helicopter from a hospital in Israeli-occupied south Lebanon to Israel, where they were taken to jail..... Page 11

Clinton and the infuriated women

■ President Clinton's well-meaning effort to bring diversity to his cabinet continued to blow up in his face as infuriated women accused him of double standards in dropping his second female choice for the attorney-general after learning she employed an illegal nanny. Were male candidates for the cabinet subjected to the same questions?..... Page 10

Deep in prayer: The Pope, in Uganda on a six-day tour, visiting the Martyrs Shrine of Namugongo outside Kampala yesterday

BUSINESS

Guessing competition: Karel Van Miert, the new EC competition commissioner, is keeping the world guessing about his policy on such issues as social dumping.. Page 36

Steel cuts: The Germans want a voluntary system for the much-needed steel reductions across Europe after the European Community's special envoyfailed to get the steel companies to agree terms..... Page 36

Troubled waters: Opec needs to cut oil production but at a meeting later this week Kuwait is likely to resist suggestions of cuts in its output..... Page 36

SPORT

Golf: Nick Faldo, the Open Champion, held off a stirring last-round challenge from Colin Montgomerie to win the Johnnie Walker Classic by one stroke in Singapore. Faldo had a four-round total of 269, 11 under par..... Page 24

Football: Arsenal are a step from Wembley after beating Crystal Palace 3-1 at Selhurst Park in the Coca-Cola Cup semi-final first leg at Selhurst Park. Tottenham crushed Southampton 4-2 by scoring four goals in under five minutes in a Premier League match..... Pages 19, 22

Boxing: Riddick Bowe earned a lucrative purse but few plaudits for beating Michael Dokes, a former drug addict, to retain his WBA and IBF world heavyweight titles in a mismatch at Madison Square Garden..... Page 20

FASHION

Coveted label: It is not very often these days that the British fashion industry gets the opportunity to wave the Union Jack on the international stage, but in Paul Smith we have every reason to feel very proud indeed. Kathryn Flett attends the men's ready-to-wear collections in Paris..... Page 13

WOMEN

On the right track: You may not know what a "megatrend" is, but if you are a woman in your thirties or forties you are part of one. And your future, according to a new book, is looking bright. Victoria McKee on women whose time has come..... Page 12

ARTS

Does it add up as art? With the coming "novelisation" of a series of coffee ads and a 60-second British Airways ad edited from 33 hours of film, are commercials making the break from craft to art, or simply getting out of hand?..... Page 27

Didn't he ramble: Comedian Eddie Izzard, who has taken a West End theatre for a month of solo shows, gave more than two hours of monologue before the interval, but there were no complaints..... Page 28

Grander than ever: The Louvre is in the midst of a programme of refurbishment and expansion of its already capacious galleries that should be the envy of British art lovers..... Page 29

EDUCATION

Knowledge factories: Just as we exaggerate, or misinterpret, the merits of American higher education, so we tend to underestimate the achievements of European universities. Peter Scott says that Britain should look to the European model..... Page 31

Viewpoint: "The bureaucrats sit in their sanctuaries refusing to meet the Neanderthal Marxist. If only they would come and talk, it might become clear that revolution is not on the agenda. Headmaster Ian Gibson has his say..... Page 31

Helping out: Many students have found the year before starting college a fruitful experience. It can also help people overseas..... Page 31

PEOPLE IN THE TIMES

Manfred Wörner, the Nato secretary-general, said the West must be ready to use force in Bosnia and should not cut defences too deeply
Pages 1,9

Tiny Rowland will meet Dieter Bock, now the largest shareholder in Lonrho, about plans for the future of the conglomerate
Page 36

Julie Ride has flown to Baghdad with her young son to visit her husband, Paul, who has been held in prison there since last summer
Page 6

Rory Underwood's inability to appreciate incipient danger led to the only try of the Wales-England game on Saturday and may cost him his place
Page 21

TV LISTINGS

The planet Mars is too cold and barren for human habitation, but scientists think they have the answers. They are examined in *Horizon* (BBC2, 8pm)..... Page 35

OPINION

Rape and punishment

The damage inflicted by brutal assault can never be corrected financially..... Page 15

Ties that bind

Members of society have an obligation not to annoy their fellow members unnecessarily. Civilisation can be held together by things as flimsy as ties..... Page 15

A good dumping

What M Bérégovoy calls social dumping is the predictable and desirable consequence of a single European market .... Mr Major should be thanked for offering an alternative model..... Page 15

COLUMNS

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

In the past year or two, the scarlet A has been pinned to a number of eminent lapels. The objective is the same as it ever was. It is to punish the adulterer by shame ... and to enjoy the hypocritical pleasure of singling out a handful of victims from what is, nowadays, a regiment of adulterers..... Page 14

MATTHEW PARRIS

Poor Africa. Does anyone really believe there is hope for the "newly" independent countries? Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Uganda, Tanzania, Somaliland ... Oh, the list goes on, and the people starve, and it brings tears to my eyes to remember all those open, smiling African people of my youth..... Page 14

PETER RIDDELL

Let select committees scrutinise and point out weaknesses in policies... But spare us government by select committee. That is a recipe for inertia and muddle..... Page 14

LETTERS

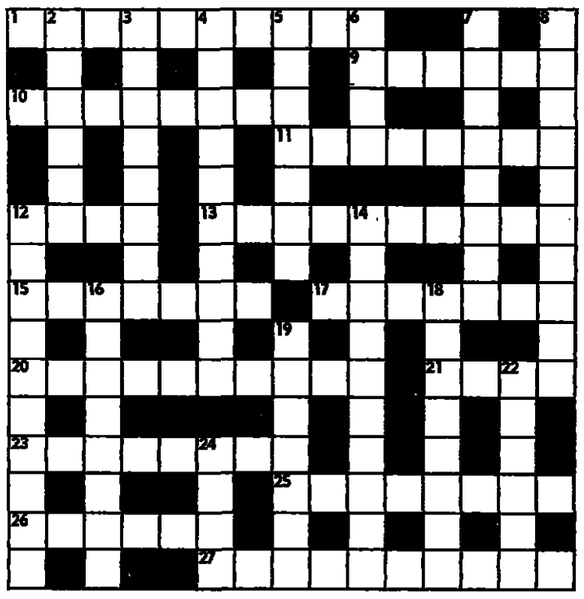
Senior serving officers respond to changed options for the structure of the army..... Page 15

THE PAPERS

The Clinton administration stumbles into its third week with its justice department plans in disarray ... There's one consolation for Mr Clinton. It should not be impossible to find someone of greater distinction than the men who have occupied the attorney-general's chair for the past 12 years

The New York Times

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,148



ACROSS

1 Nightclub model without a male is upset (10).
9 A woman needs ample change, note (6).
10 Tip-top boat carrying cash (8).
11 An instrument of the law? (8).
12 It's a backward province in Italy (4).
13 Inferior school holding on with beds falling to bits (6-4).
15 Form loved PE (7).
17 A little devil in the matter of laying it on thick (7).
20 No philanthropist, though he does give things away (10).
21 Duck take advantage of the river (4).
23 Bread and ale can be easy to digest (8).
25 Collecting recyclable stuff without the right means moving briskly! (8).
26 Irregular wanting a Continental uniform (6).
27 Revolutionary devices for fans (10).

DOWN

2 A family of flowering plants - one climbs (6).
3 Scheme to study a high church feature (8).
4 A means of increasing the viewer's interest (10).
5 When done, carry out ham (7).
6 Some keep icily cool, being heroic (4).
7 Having to interview many fewer, one doesn't get the pip (8).
8 Fine line in a musical hit (4-6).
12 Room for a house here! (10).
14 They reckon Amos Turner needs sorting out (10).
16 A country-dweller takes a drink after 6.50 (8).
18 A more sober individual is needed for an artist's little boys (8).
19 The senior magistrate making a report (7).
22 See about article about a spirited meeting (6).
24 A natural inclination to be crooked? (4).

PARKER DUOFOLD

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 19,147 will appear next Saturday. The 5 winners will receive a Duofold fountain pen supplied by Parker

Concise Crossword, page 36

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

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Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
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Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Heredfs & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Flts/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
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National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
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North-east England	743
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WEATHER

The quiet, mostly cloudy and dry weather will persist through most of this week. Some drizzle is likely, mainly over north-west Scotland, and many places will be misty. A few brighter patches are also likely, especially over eastern Scotland. It will be mild over most of the country but eastern and southern England will be colder than during the weekend. Outlook: perhaps slightly brighter and colder.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	14	57	s	Madrid	11	52	s
Alicante	16	61	c	Majorca	13	55	r
Alex'dria	17	63	s	Malaga	18	61	f
Algiers	13	55	s	Malta	17	63	f
Amst'dm	7	45	c	Melb'rne	30	86	s
Athens	18	64	s	Mexico C*	11	52	f
Bahrain	15	59	s	Miami*	26	79	c
Bangkok	31	88	s	Milan	11	52	s
Barbados*	28	82	f	Montreal*	-25	-13	s
Barcelna	13	55	s	Moscow	-7	19	f
Beirut	16	61	c	Munich	3	37	c
Belgrade	3	37	f	Naples	16	61	s
Berlin	3	37	s	N Delhi	22	72	s
Bermuda*	21	70	f	N York*	-11	12	sn
Biarritz	14	57	s	Nice	14	57	s
Borde'x	11	52	s	Oslo	-3	27	f
Brussels	7	45	d	Paris	5	41	c
Budapst	4	39	s	Peking	4	39	s
B Aires*	21	70	c	Perth	24	75	s
Cairo	19	66	s	Prague	2	36	c
Cape Tn	22	72	s	Reykjavik	3	37	c
Chicago*	-1	30	c	Rhodes	17	63	s
Ch'church	17	63	c	Rio de J	30	86	s
Cologne	9	41	c	Riyadh	14	57	s
C'phagn	3	37	s	Rome	15	59	s
Corfu	15	59	s	Salzburg	7	45	f
Dublin	11	52	c	S F'risco*	13	55	c
Dubrovnik	14	57	s	Santiago*	27	81	s
Faro	15	59	f	S Paulo*	28	79	c
Florence	11	52	f	Seoul	1	34	s
Frankfurt	4	39	c	Sing'por	31	88	s
Funchal	18	61	f	St'kholm	1	34	s
Geneva	3	37	f	Strasb'rg	4	39	c
Gibraltar	15	59	c	Sydney	27	81	s
Helsinki	-1	30	s	Tangier	17	63	f
Hong K	23	73	s	Tel Aviv	16	61	s
Innsbruck	8	46	s	Tenerife	17	63	c
Istanbul	6	43	r	Tokyo	18	64	s
Jeddah	23	73	s	Toronto*	-17	1	s
Jo'burg*	26	79	f	Tunis	14	57	f
L Palmas	15	59	f	Valencia	14	57	f
Le Touqet	10	50	c	Vanc'ver*	10	50	c
Lisbon	12	54	s	Venice	7	45	s
Locarno	10	50	s	Vienna	4	39	c
London	9	48	d	Warsaw	-3	27	s
L Angels*	18	64	s	Wash'ton*	-1	30	c
Luxembg	4	39	c	Wel'nton	16	61	s
Luxor	20	68	s	Zurich	9	48	s

* denotes figures are latest available

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 10C (50F); min 6pm to 6am, 9C (48F). Humidity: 6pm, 95 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.02in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6pm, 1,036.5 millibars, rising. 1,000 millibars=29.53in.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Saturday: Highest day temp: Scarborough, North Yorkshire, 16C (59F); lowest day max: Lerwick, Shetland, 4C (39F); highest rainfall: Selkirkfirth, Shetland, 0.65in; highest sunshine: Tynemouth, Tyne and Wear, 6.6hr.

GLASGOW

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 13C (55F); min 6pm to 6am, —1C (30F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 8.9hr.

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	3.4	-	14	57	sunny
Anglesey	-	-	8	46	dull
Aviemore	0.1	-	11	52	cloudy
Belfast	0.2	0.09	11	52	cloudy
Birmingham	-	-	10	50	cloudy
Bognor Regis	0.8	-	9	48	cloudy
Bournemouth	0.8	-	10	50	cloudy
Bristol	0.4	-	9	48	cloudy
Buxton	-	0.01	6	43	fog
Cardiff	1.3	-	9	48	cloudy
Clacton	0.1	-	10	50	cloudy
Douglas	-	0.01	10	50	cloudy
Edinburgh	0.6	-	12	54	cloudy
Eskdalemuir	1.6	-	11	52	bright
Exmouth	0.6	-	10	50	cloudy
Falmouth	-	-	8	48	cloudy
Folkestone	-	-	8	46	cloudy
Glasgow	-	0.02	10	50	drizzle
Guernsey	-	-	8	48	cloudy
Hastings	0.1	0.02	8	46	rain
Hunstanton	1.6	-	10	50	cloudy
Jersey	0.3	-	8	46	cloudy
Kinloss	1.5	0.01	12	54	bright
Leeds	-	0.02	10	50	rain
Lerwick	-	0.54	4	39	rain
Littlehampton	0.4	-	10	50	cloudy
Liverpool	-	0.01	7	45	fog
London	-	-	11	52	cloudy
Lowestoft	-	-	11	52	cloudy
Manchester	-	0.04	8	46	drizzle
Minehead	1.4	-	9	48	bright
Morecambe	-	0.02	7	45	dull
Newcastle	4.4	0.03	12	54	sunny
Newquay	-	-	8	48	cloudy
Nottingham	-	-	11	52	cloudy
Penzance	0.2	-	9	48	cloudy
Plymouth	0.8	-	8	46	cloudy
Poole	0.9	-	10	50	bright
Prestwick	-	0.07	10	50	drizzle
Scarborough	5.4	0.06	15	59	sunny
Scilly Isles	-	-	9	48	cloudy
Shanklin	0.8	-	9	48	bright
Southsea	0.9	-	9	48	cloudy
Swanage	1.2	-	11	52	bright
Teignmouth	-	-	9	48	cloudy
Tenby	0.4	-	9	48	cloudy
Tiree	-	0.03	10	50	drizzle
Torquay	0.5	-	9	48	cloudy
Weymouth	0.9	-	11	52	cloudy
Wick	0.1	0.02	9	48	rain
Worthing	1.6	0.01	9	48	drizzle

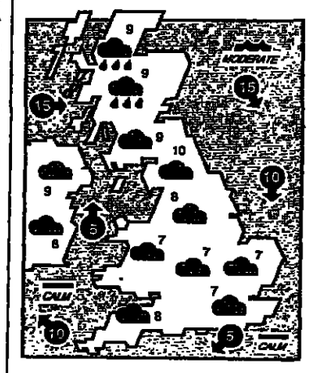
*Denotes not available
These are Saturday's figures

TOURIST RATES

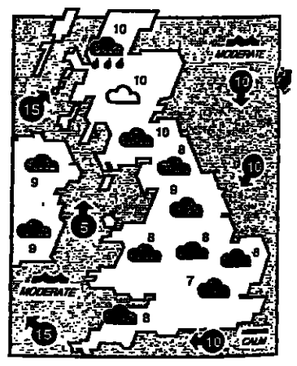
	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.235	2.035
Austria Sch	17.80	16.40
Belgium Fr	52.50	48.10
Canada $	1.95	1.79
Denmark Kr	9.75	8.95
Finland Mkk	8.89	8.09
France Fr	8.59	7.89
Germany Dm	2.535	2.335
Greece Dr	342.00	317.00
Hong Kong $	11.86	10.86
Ireland Pt	1.035	0.955
Italy Lira	2325.00	2160.00
Japan Yen	197.75	178.75
Netherlands Gld	2.86	2.63
Norway Kr	10.71	9.91
Portugal Esc	228.00	210.00
South Africa Rd	5.40	4.70
Spain Pta	175.75	162.75
Sweden Kr	11.36	10.56
Switzerland Fr	2.395	2.195
Turkey Lira	13700.0	12700.0
USA $	1.54	1.415

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading on Friday.

AM



PM



LIGHTING-UP TIMES

London 5.03 pm to 7.28 am
Bristol 5.13 pm to 7.35 am
Edinburgh 5.01 pm to 7.51 am
Manchester 5.06 pm to 7.40 am
Penzance 5.28 pm to 7.44 am

Sun rises: 7.38 am
Sun sets: 5.03 pm
Moon rises 7.43 pm
Moon sets 7.38 am
Last Quarter February 13

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

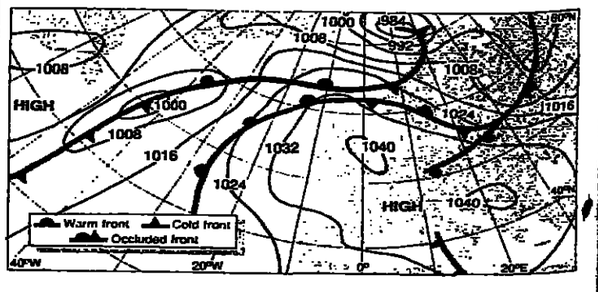
	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	10	50	c	Guernsey	9	48	c
B'rmgham	11	52	c	Inverness	12	54	c
Blackpool	8	46	d	Jersey	9	48	c
Bristol	10	50	d	London	9	48	d
Cardiff	10	50	c	M'chester	9	48	sl
Edinburgh	11	52	s	Newcastle	13	55	f
Glasgow	11	52	c	R'nldsway	10	50	c

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2.29	7.5	2.56	7.7
Aberdeen	1.58	4.5	2.06	4.7
Avonmouth	8.05	14.2	8.30	14.1
Belfast	11.50	3.8	—	—
Cardiff	7.50	13.1	8.15	13.0
Devonport	6.39	5.9	7.05	5.6
Dover	11.47	6.8	—	—
Falmouth	6.09	5.7	6.35	5.4
Glasgow	1.49	4.7	1.47	5.2
Harwich	12.24	4.0	12.50	4.1
Holyhead	11 02	6.1	11.27	5.9
Hull	7.08	7.8	7.13	8.2
Ilfracombe	6.48	9.2	7.13	9.8
King's Lynn	7.25	6.9	7.29	7.3
Leith	3.22	5.8	3.36	6.0

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Liverpool	—	—	12.05	10.1
Lowestoft	10.24	2.4	10.24	2.7
Margate	12.32	4.9	1.07	4.9
Milford Haven	7.02	7.6	7.26	7.5
Newquay	5.52	7.6	6.16	7.5
Oban	6.08	4.3	6.51	4.1
Penzance	5.37	6.0	6.04	5.7
Portland	7.39	2.4	8.08	2.5
Portsmouth	12.08	5.0	—	—
Shoreham	—	—	12.02	6.6
Southampton	11.37	4.7	—	—
Swansea	7.09	10.4	7.31	10.2
Tees	4.30	5.6	4.40	5.9
W'ton-on-Nze	12.12	4.2	12.41	4.4

NOON TODAY



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هكذا من الأصل

صكذا من الاصل

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Faldo's command earns victory in Singapore

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Rosa Mannion: Silvery tone as Gilda in Rigoletto

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Tiny Rowland to find executive role for Bock

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THE TIMES

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MONDAY FEBRUARY 8 1993

A pause for thought and England's game was up

DAVID MILLER

Wales 10, England 9

For a ha'p'orth of tar, the ship was lost. From Rory Underwood's momentary mental eclipse was England's chance of a third successive rugby union grand slam surrendered by a single point. The glory of Welsh triumph served only to magnify the bleakness of poor Underwood's split-second blunder.

The tribal Welsh confront you with their cultural pride even by dual-tongue lavatory signs in cosmopolitan Cardiff. *Land of My Fathers* reverberated from the concrete walls of the Arms Park on Saturday as the crowd poured into the streets after Wales's five nations' championship victory as though in liberation from siege, never pausing in celebration to consider the improbability of what will remain one of the most electric sporting moments of 1993.

Yet was it not the experienced Underwood's 58th cap? Is not the England wing an RAF pilot trained to think at the speed of sound? In the moment of England's doom, there he was as somnolent as a cowherd waiting to close the gate after the last of his beasts has gone for milking.

Emyr Lewis's short kick ahead for Wales was innocuous enough. Underwood could have nudged the ball a couple of feet into touch for a Welsh lineout on the right more than 20 yards from the England line, and the pursuit of an unprecedented feat would have remained intact as England reached half-time 9-3 ahead.

Instead, with his back to the blood-red foe, Underwood, seeing Jonathan Webb to his left, was busy considering the advisability of a pass inside. "I didn't think there was any urgency," he said inexplicably later. In that instant, he and England perished.

While Underwood glanced left, Ieuan Evans, the Welsh captain and wing, thundered past his right shoulder in the tiny gap between him and the line, booted forward again, sprinted as though driven in the back by every frenzied Welshman present, and flung himself on the ball for a try that the Principality, and not to mention Underwood, will never forget.

England's record try-scorer had Evans's sympathy. "I think it would be very unfair if they dropped Rory," he said. "After all his caps and tries. I think he's done enough in his career to be given some leeway and it would be grossly unfair to castigate him for one error. It's a horrible situation with your back to everyone and no-one can tell you what's happening."

So what, England will have said to themselves. Did not another 40 minutes remain? Had not Dewi Morris tormented the Welsh back row for much of the first half and himself had a try disallowed by the French referee? Had not Will Carling and Jeremy Guscott threatened to run through the Welsh defence repeatedly? All would surely be well.

England counted without the passion in Welsh hearts that is never extinguished, and which grew into a roaring, intimidating inferno of defence with every passing minute of the second half. For those who recalled that day of humiliation 14 months ago, when Wales fell to Western Samoa in the World Cup, here was a cleansing of the soul; and there could be no finer moment for it than against the recently ascendant England.

Teenage girls hoarsely cried to everybody around them: "Smile, smile, we beat them!" as they spilled afterwards into the tumult of the Cardiff streets.

What a 40 minutes it proved to be. The tension was stretched to a higher pitch than ever was England's victory over France. It seemed impossible that Wales could survive, with the struggle surging back and forth almost permanently within their territory.

The moment England dreams of a third consecutive grand slam disappeared: Rory Underwood is caught napping as the Welsh captain, Ieuan Evans, streaks past

Again and again, Jenkins at stand-off half lofted his steepling kicks ahead of the pack, but the ball was dropping barely beyond the halfway line, and immediately England came forging back upon the Welsh defences. Bayfield, driving through two tackles, seemed, like Morris, to have touched down, but was denied. Morris, breaking once more round the scrum, was halted on the line by the left corner flag. The pressure was intense.

Guscott, a thoroughbred with his high-stepping stride, sent England hopes soaring 15 minutes from time with a diagonal run, right to left, then kicked ahead, only to be sent hurtling into touch by a late tackle. Irony of ironies, Webb's penalty rebounded from the post, fate withdrawing from England favours bestowed against the French at Twickenham three weeks ago.

Then it was Ian Hunter, Northampton's bullock of a wing, hurling himself at the Welsh ranks only to be repulsed. Carling, with too many false starts behind him in this match, surged for the right corner but was ground down. The Welsh somehow survived within yards of their line, every man Horatius defending the bridge, and the story would live to be told with weeping and laughter.

There were less than three minutes remaining when finally it seemed that Webb would rescue England's evaporating hopes, but he regarded the range of a kick as too far, and Carling opted to thrust for a lineout and the last chance of a surge for the line.

It was not to be. Almost under the posts, Mike Rayer retrieved from a ruck and kicked 20 yards to safety. The cheer could be heard throughout the valleys. It was a famous Welsh day and we all had to cheer with them.

Unlucky Scotland, page 20
Rob Andrew, page 21

Arsenal rely on Wright's touch to punish Palace

Crystal Palace 1
Arsenal 3

BY KEITH PIKE

A TIE designed to span 31 days was effectively all over within 21 minutes at Selhurst Park yesterday. By then, Arsenal were 2-0 up and had all but secured their place in the Coca-Cola Cup final at Wembley on April 18.

Their supporters will doubtless fight for tickets to see them finish the job in the second leg of their semi-final at Highbury on March 10. A case, perhaps, of all over bar the touting.

Crystal Palace, having fought so splendidly to eliminate Southampton, Liverpool and Chelsea to reach this stage of the competition for the first time, will again take the field weighed down by the inferiority complex that undermined their challenge yesterday.

They have now lost five of their last eight meetings with Arsenal — the other three were drawn — and, at two goals down, it would take either a very rich or very foolish man to bet against Arsenal going through to meet either Blackburn Rovers or Sheffield Wednesday, who meet in the first leg of their semi-final at Ewood Park on Wednesday.

Inevitably, Ian Wright was heavily involved in Arsenal's victory — their fifth in succession away from home. He was roundly booed by the supporters who used to cheer him before Palace cashed in on his goalscoring panache by selling him to their north London rivals for £2.5 million 17 months ago.

But all that meant was an awful lot of booing and thousands of sore Palace throats.

Wright touched the ball a lot, most crucially when he put Arsenal ahead from the penalty spot after eight minutes and, again, when he was instrumental in the first of Alan Smith's two goals.

He has now scored 46 goals in 63 games since his transfer and his value to an Arsenal side so fitful in the Premier League, yet so effective when cups are at stake, cannot be overestimated.

England, surely, cannot afford to do without him in their World Cup qualifier against San Marino on Wednesday week. Smith might just have made the perfect case to partner him.

The only blemish on Arsenal's day came with the Palace goal that briefly raised their hopes.

Tony Adams's fury at John Martin's decision to award a penalty for his challenge on Watts prompted the Arsenal captain to pursue the referee across the area and lay hands on him.

Television evidence suggested Adams had a genuine grievance but what followed was an act of utmost folly. A more sensitive referee would have done more than merely brandish the yellow card.

Osborn's spot-kick, which temporarily halved Palace's deficit, was converted as emphatically as Wright had done earlier. The award in that first case, though, was unarguable.

McGoldrick, the winger successfully deployed at sweeper recently by Steve Coppell, the Palace manager, had been detailed this time to man mark his former colleague. The strain was telling within minutes.

When Campbell headed into the area and Young fluffed his clearance, Wright burst through and had his legs taken away by McGoldrick. He picked himself up to exact revenge from the spot.

Thirteen minutes later, McGoldrick's misery was complete. Wright shrugged aside his challenge a few yards inside the Palace half, Hillier sent him scampering forward and although Martyn did well to race out of his area and block Wright, the ball fell to Smith, who calmly steered it back into an empty net from 30 yards.

Coppell reorganised his demoralised forces at half-time but the horse had long since bolted the stable door. Deprived of his own leading scorer, the cup-tied Armstrong, Coppell threw the promising youngster, Watts, into the fray to support the isolated Coleman up front and he at least showed the pace and skill necessary to unsettle a previously untroubled Arsenal defence.

But Palace's flickering revival was doused by Smith's second goal after 65 minutes. Having ended a three-month drought in Arsenal's FA Cup fourth-round replay victory against Leeds United at Elland Road, he grabbed his fifth goal of the season when Campbell's aerial prowess set up a close-range chance.

Coppell admitted that Palace's chances of turning the tie around were "remote." There were few dissenting voices.

CRYSTAL PALACE: N Martyn; L Simmot (sub: G Watts), R Shaw, C Coleman, E Young, A Thorn, S Osborn, G Thomas, R Bowry, S Rodger, E McGoldrick.

ARSENAL: D Seaman; L Dixon, N Winterburn, D Hillier, A Linighan, A Adams, I Selley, I Wright (sub: S Morrow), A Smith, P Merson, K Campbell.

Referee: J Martin.

Tottenham's burst, page 22
Photograph, page 23

Platt ready for England

DAVID Platt and Paul Gascoigne encouraged the England manager, Graham Taylor, yesterday as he considers his options for the World Cup qualifying tie against San Marino next week.

Platt returned to the Italian league after a two-month absence following a knee operation, lasting 75 minutes before being substituted in Juventus's 2-1 defeat at Atalanta. Gascoigne, preferred to the German international, Thomas Doll, set up the second of Lazio's goals in the 2-0 victory over Fiorentina. Taylor names his squad today.

AC Milan, nine points clear at the top, will not be strengthening their team by signing Denis Bergkamp, the Dutch international forward. Adriano Galliani, a Milan director, said the club could not guarantee Bergkamp a regular first-team place as Milan, who have six foreign players on their books, can only play three in any one match.

Two goals from Eoin Jess yesterday put Aberdeen in the quarter-finals of the Scottish Cup at the expense of Dundee United at Pittodrie.

Draw, page 22

Aids virus claims Arthur Ashe, 49

BY ANDREW LONGMORE, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

FROM the moment he chose tennis as a career, whichever way Arthur Ashe turned in his life, he faced a challenge. That he overcame almost all of them and was working to the day of his death, at the age of 49, to conquer the greatest of them, the Aids virus, which he contracted from a blood transfusion after his heart operation 13 years ago, was a tribute to his courage and determination.

Yesterday, the tennis world gave its reaction to the news of Ashe's death from pneumonia. "I will always remember him as someone who made his mark not just in tennis, but in world events," Jimmy Connors, the victim of Ashe's finest hour at the Wimbledon final of 1975, said. "The way he handled his life was an example to everyone."

Martina Navratilova paid an equally robust tribute to Ashe, who also won the US Open in 1968 and the Australian Open in 1970. "He was an extraordinary human being, who transcended the world of sport, race, religion and nationality and, in his own way, helped to change the world," she said. "His truly special quality came to light in the last years of his life, which he devoted to raising money to combat the Aids virus."

Studious, quiet and gentle, with his brow permanently furrowed in concentration, Ashe had a considerable intellect, which he devoted to a host of causes, from the development of the Association of Tennis Professionals to the abolition of apartheid. Last year, he was arrested during a protest for Haitian refugees.

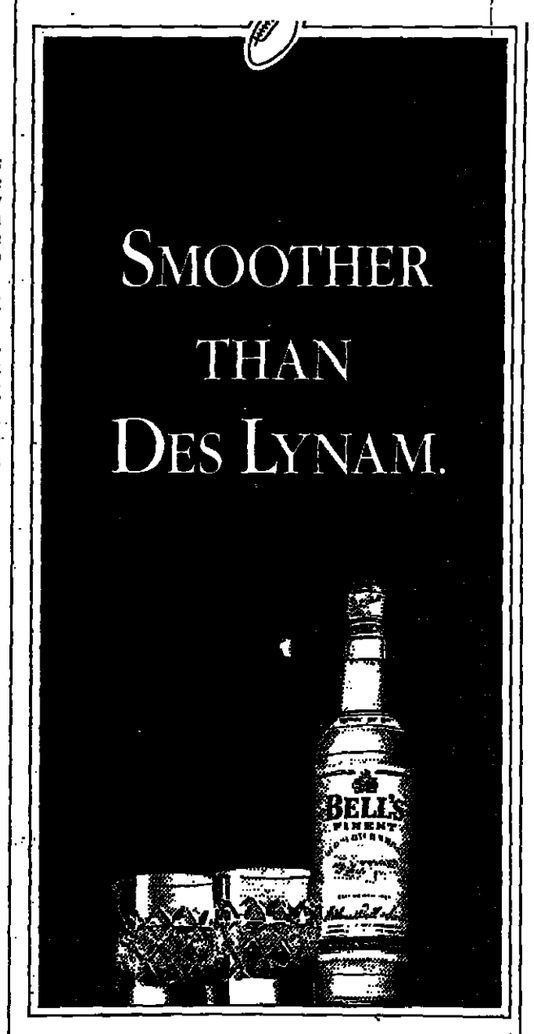
In sporting terms, though, Ashe will always be remembered for his remarkable defeat of Connors at Wimbledon. Connors was the hot favourite to retain his title, but Ashe, tall and slight, devised an ingenious game plan, varying his angles and pace so cleverfully that Connors was never able to gain that irresistible momentum. The tactics were as foreign to Ashe's nature as they were perplexing to Connors, and his 6-1, 6-1, 5-7, 6-4 victory made Ashe the first black to win the men's title.

One of Ashe's greatest causes was to spread the gospel of tennis in Africa, and the success of Yannick Noah, whose talent Ashe had discovered and nurtured, brought him almost as much satisfaction as his own triumphs.

Noah said yesterday: "He was a missionary for black American sport and he was successful at a time when even appearing on a tennis court was a challenge for a black person. There will be a great void in tennis."

Ashe: tributes

Obituary, page 17



The Spirit of the Game

Title defence exposed as shameful mismatch

Bowe: not tested

BY SRIKUMAR SEN
BOXING CORRESPONDENT

THE homecoming of Riddick Bowe did not quite go as the World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation champion had expected at Madison Square Garden on Saturday. Instead of the cheers of his fans ringing in his ears after he disposed of Michael Dokes in two minutes 19 seconds, boos and chants of derision assailed his eardrums. Some even shouted: "Hey Bowe, why don't you fight Lewis?"

The crowd had hoped Dokes, 33, would put up a fight in spite of reading all week that the former dope addict, who is still in the process of rehabilitation, no longer had the reflexes to beat off flies with a hat, never mind the punches of a champion eight years younger.

The bout was another one of those disgraceful mismatches so common in boxing and which one has come to accept as valid because so much money changes hands. It would be surprising if the British Boxing Board of Control allowed Dokes to box in England.

You could not blame Dokes. He never claimed to be anything other than an addict, "a recovering addict but, like the rest of us, an addict". One has to blame the champion and his manager, Rock Newman, for cynically exploiting their position. Bowe said: "I wouldn't mind fighting Larry Holmes [aged 44]– although I think the result would be pretty much the same. Why should I be labelled? Boxing is a business. We're all in it to make money, so why not?"

Seth Abraham, the head of Home Box Office (HBO), which was behind the bout, tried to justify the choice of Dokes by implying that it was Bowe's boxing rather than Dokes' inadequacies that finished the contest so quickly. But Abraham did say that nobody, apart from Evander Holyfield and Lennox Lewis, was good enough to warrant a pay-per-view bout. So far as the ordinary HBO shows were concerned, he said the list was a longer one and included Tony Tubbs, George Foreman and Frank Bruno.

The choice of Bowe's next opponent, in May, will depend on how much HBO allows Newman to get away with. Newman's aim is to cash in on as many easy defences as possible. He had lined up Ray Mercer, but he was beaten on the undercard by Jessie Ferguson.

M. C. Hammer, who now acts as Evander Holyfield's promoter, said he would be talking to Newman about a rematch with Bowe. But it would be surprising if Newman took such a dangerous opponent just yet. If Bowe is serious about giving himself three years to beat Rocky Marciano's unbeaten run of 49 contests, we can expect to see a few more "tomato cans" before any difficult opponent is engaged. With 33 contests in the bag, he has still 17 to go.

After the bout, Eddie Futch, Bowe's trainer, said: "Our plan was to box, box, box and set Dokes up. We figured Dokes would rest on the ropes to save his legs and when that happened Riddick would tee him up for the big right hand." But a strategy was not really necessary. Bowe could have done just as he pleased, so slow were Dokes's thought processes.

A sharp left dropped Dokes on to the ropes and he sank from one strand to the next. He got up with the help of the referee, Joe Santarparia, but subsequently came under such a barrage — 25 punches without reply — that Santarparia had to finally step in. It was the worst heavyweight championship bout I have ever seen.

England spinner bounces back after £500 fine for bad behaviour

Four-wicket haul lifts gloom for frustrated Tufnell

FROM PETER BALL IN VISHAKHAPATNAM

ENGLAND'S match with the Rest of India duly petered out into a dull draw in Visakhapatnam yesterday. The saga of Philip Tufnell was livelier and continues to run, the left-arm spinner taking four wickets to bring a more hopeful twist to a recently depressing tale.

On the surface it looks straightforward. Fined £500 on Saturday as his frustration with his form and situation got the better of him, he came back yesterday with the perfect response, taking four for 18 in ten overs in the morning, the wickets going down for three runs in the course of 5.3 overs.

But Tufnell being Tufnell, it was not that simple. It is not to decry his bowling to point out that the wickets came when the Rest of India batsmen were having a slog to set up a declaration.

Kapoor, having hit Tufnell for ten in three balls to reach his fifty, was caught at deep extra cover off the fourth. Both Paranjpe and Yadav fell to brilliant catches in the deep, by Fairbrother, which was not surprising, and by Malcolm, which indicated how much Tufnell's luck had suddenly changed.

That in itself is encouraging. He could also argue that he stood up to the threatened onslaught with conviction yesterday, unlike on Saturday, when his frustrations boiled over as Tendulkar and Manjrekar put him to the sword after Blakey had missed a very reasonable stumping chance. His anger with Blakey and his demeanour in general, particularly when he was no-balled 11 times, did him no favours. Whether a £500 fine by the tour management rather than a quiet word was called for, when the umpires had made no official complaint, is more questionable.

"I was obviously frustrated," Tufnell said yesterday, "and the no-balls add to your own frustration. I don't know whether it was because I was trying too hard or not."

Possibly Tufnell paid for his past history and for the events of the last week, after questions about his attitude had culminated in a management statement of support for the player on Friday, less than 24 hours before he was snatching his cap from the umpire and kicking it angrily into the covers. To say the least, his sense of timing is poor. He has now apologised to Blakey, his captain and the two umpires.

It would be nice to think that that would be that. Tufnell being Tufnell, accident prone and self-destructive in equal measure, it is probably just one more episode in a stormy career.

In form, and in harmony with himself, which is always more problematic, he is a key member of the England team. His performances so far have been less than riveting, and he was left out of the first Test with several observers persuaded that his problems were with India rather than with his cricket.

It is sometimes easy to overdo the psycho-analysis, and an equally tenable explanation is that he has been handled unsympathetically. With his Test record, it is understandable if he should feel that there was no need for him to prove himself under pressure in a virtual trial match at Vishakhapatnam, or indeed in the early fixtures before the first Test. Either way, he deserves a chance in Madras, because he is England's most likely match winner in a game they have to win.

Tufnell apart, the English players to take any real satisfaction yesterday were Smith and Fairbrother. Smith batted even more convincingly second time round before retiring at tea in a vain attempt to give Stewart a bat.

Unless Hick's illness runs longer than any so far, it is probably too late for Fairbrother to claim a Test place, but he put up his best display of the tour, outside the one-day internationals. Coming in at No. 3 after an early wicket allowed him to start against seam, he timed the ball almost from the start.

Three consecutive fours off Prasad put him in tune with himself, and although he was more cautious against spin, he kept the score moving along and had hit nine fours and a six when the game died its inevitable death.

GRAHAM MORRIS

Under pressure: Tufnell was hit about as well as taking four wickets yesterday

SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND XI: First Innings
M A Atherton c Paranjpe b Ankola 33
*A J Stewart retired hurt 0
R A Smith lbw b Prasad 82
N H Fairbrother b Kapoor 2
D A Reeve lbw b Kapoor 3
†R J Blakey not out 63
P A J DeFreitas c Yadav b Prasad 2
J E Emburey b Prasad 53
I D K Salisbury not out 5
Extras (b 2, lb 1, w 1, nb 6) 10
Total (8 wkts dec) 253

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-81, 2-91, 3-120, 4-127, 5-129, 6-241.

P C R Tufnell and D E Malcolm did not bat.

BOWLING: Ankola 25-6-91-1; Prasad 22-10-39-3; Chatterjee 14-2-37-0; Padmanabhan 19-6-31-0; Kapoor 21-6-45-2; Tendulkar 3-0-7-0.

Second Innings
R A Smith retired hurt 38
M A Atherton c Yadav b Prasad 0
N H Fairbrother not out 78
*A J Stewart lbw b Padmanabhan 0
D A Reeve not out 21
Extras (b 8, lb 4, w 1) 13
Total (2 wkts) 150

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4 2-85.

BOWLING: Ankola 8-3-13-0; Prasad 8-1-24-1; Kapoor 11-3-35-0; Chatterjee 9-3-31-0; Padmanabhan 14-2-35-1; Tendulkar 1-1-0-0

REST OF INDIA XI: First Innings
A R Khurasia c Atherton b Malcolm 10
W V Raman lbw b Malcolm 24
S V Manjrekar c Emburey b Salisbury 96
*S R Tendulkar c Atherton b Salisbury 61
J Paranjpe c Fairbrother b Tufnell 64
A Kapoor c Emburey b Tufnell 54
†V Yadav c Malcolm b Tufnell 1
U Chatterjee c Salisbury b Salisbury 8
S A Ankola c Blakey b Tufnell 1
A Padmanabhan not out 6
V Prasad not out 0
Extras (b 6, w 1, nb 15) 22
Total (9 wkts dec) 345

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-23, 2-50, 3-168, 4-216, 5-328, 6-332, 7-336, 8-339, 9-339.

BOWLING: Malcolm 19-4-65-2; DeFreitas 16-1-52-0; Reeve 7-1-22-0; Tufnell 26-4-95-4; Emburey 20-4-53-0; Salisbury 19-3-54-3.

Umpires: A V Jayaprakash and S Chowdra.

RUGBY UNION

Scotland fail to grasp their chance

France 13
Scotland 3

FROM BRYAN STILES IN PARIS

AS IAN McGeechan, Scotland's sad-faced coach, sat like an Aunt Sally dodging questions in Paris on why his team had been defeated, his air of disappointment suddenly changed and he almost smiled.

Somebody had told him that Wales had beaten England; that all was not lost. "We are not going to get the grand slam, but we are going for the triple crown" — a simple enough statement, but given he is a coach whose pronouncements usually fall into the "we are only taking one match at a time" category, this was a shrill battle cry at the close of his career.

He is retiring as Scotland's coach at the end of the season and capturing the triple crown would be a fitting way to bow out. He was bitterly disappointed the team had let victory slip through its fingers. Triumph awaited the Scots if only they had shown a more clinical attitude when they had the French by the throat several times during the game.

Scotland gave France frights they never expected. Luck was certainly not on their side and this was typified in the dying minutes when Stark intercepted and raced half the length of the field to touch down under the posts only to be recalled for being marginally offside.

It was the closest of decisions by Derek Bevan, the referee, who handled the game splendidly. Even if Scotland had managed to get a converted try on the scoreboard, however, there would not have been enough time left to get the score they needed for victory.

No blame should attach to Gavin Hastings, the Scotland full back, who missed with five of his six penalty kicks at goal. He declined to criticise the pitch, which seemed to come away in large chunks like a newly, and badly, laid lawn whenever a player dug his heels in. The place kickers found their standing foot slipping away from them as they struck the ball.

Wright, the tight-head prop drafted in to fill a gap at loose head, played well, holding the scrum together and playing his part in the loose.

The Scots were clearly pleased with the performance of the pack as a whole. They gained almost twice the amount of good ball from the lineout in the first half than their opponents, with Weir, Reed and Cronin contributing in turn. But it was an unexpected bonus that Scotland did not use to best advantage.

Chalmers should have varied his tactics instead of lofting almost every ball he received into the clouds. His partner, Armstrong, was again a source of inspiration. He frequently darted down the middle creating havoc in the French defence. He was so quick he often left his support players trailing and promising situations could not be exploited.

The score stood at 3-3 by the interval, with Camberabero kicking a penalty goal in the twelfth minute and Hastings replying in the 28th to take his international points total to the 400 mark.

The Scots began the second half like dervishes and looked to have scored when backs and forwards combined to drive the ball over the line. Bevan ruled otherwise and the French took fresh heart when Hastings missed with two long-range penalty attempts.

Camberabero made no mistake nearly 20 minutes into the half with a penalty kick. It signalled the beginning of the end for the Scots. The French were visibly lifted and their forwards had the Scottish defence on the rack. In the 65th minute, Benazzi instigated an attack which put Lacroix over in the corner for an unconverted try that sealed the issue.

SCORERS: France: Try: Lacroix. Penalty goals: Camberabero (2). Scotland: Penalty goal: G Hastings.

FRANCE: J-B Lafond (Bègles), P Saint-André (Montferrand), P Sella (Agen), T Lacroix (Dax), P Hontas (Biarritz), D Camberabero (Béziers), A Hueber (Toulon); L Armary (Lourdes), J-F Tordo (Nice, capt), L Seigne (Merignac), P Benetton (Agen), A Benazzi (Agen), O Roumat (Dax), L Cabannes (Racing), M Cécillon (Bourgoin).

SCOTLAND: A G Hastings (Watsonians, capt); A G Stanger (Hawick), S Hastings (Watsonians), A G Shiel (Melrose), D A Stark (Boroughmuir); C M Chalmers (Melrose), G Armstrong (Jed-Forest); P Wright (Boroughmuir), K S Milne (Heriot's FP), A P Burnell (London Scottish), D J Turnbull (Hawick), A I Reed (Bath), D F Cronin (London Scottish), I R Morrison (London Scottish), G W Weir (Melrose).

Referee: D Bevan (Wales).

Clohessy faces France

PETER Clohessy, the Young Munster prop against whom Bob Dwyer fulminated after his Australian team was beaten by Munster last October, will make his first appearance for Ireland against France at Lansdowne Road on February 20 (David Hands writes).

Clohessy, 26, was one of two newcomers named yesterday in a team showing five changes from that beaten 15-3 by Scotland last month. The other is Ciaran Clarke, the Terenure College full back who played so well for Leinster against the Australians this season.

Clohessy takes over from Paul McCarthy and Clarke replaces Colin Wilkinson. Jim Staples, is unavailable through injury, while Neil Francis and Terry Kingston return to the forwards.

IRELAND: C Clarke (Terenure College), S P Geoghegan (London Irish), V J G Cunningham (St Mary's College); P P A Danaher (Garryowen), R M Wallace (Garryowen); N G Malone (London Irish), M T Bradley (Cork Constitution, capt); N J Popplewell (Greystones), T J Kingston (Dolphin), P Clohessy (Young Munster), P J Lawlor (Bective Rangers), P S Johns (Dungannon), N P J Francis (Blackrock College), W D McBride (Malone), A N Other. Replacements: B T Glennon (Lansdowne), E Elwood (Lansdowne), R Saunders (London Irish), M J Galwey (Shannon), P D McCarthy (Cork Constitution), J N Murphy (Greystones).

Funeral

Mr Hugh Robinson
The funeral of Mr Hu son took place at the Chapel, South Audley Thursday, February 4. was conducted by the Gibraltar in Europe : were read by Mr Jame Mrs Deborah Stebbin Keith Millar. Amo present were: Mrs Hugh Robinson, Mr Robinson, Mr James R Mrs Susan Robinson. Mrs Peter Adams, Mr an Aisher, Mr and Mrs D Mrs Paris Back, Major Mr Richard Bareman, Bed, Mr and Mrs Peter Archie Birkmyre, Bt, V Viscountess Bridgeman, Buckeridge, Mr and Burroughs, Lord and Lad William Carrigan, Clayton, Mr Anthony C Malby Crofton, Bt, Crosthwaite, Mr Patrick Mr Perry Crosthwaite, M Mr John Denison, Mr Bl Mrs Gerald Draper, Sir Lady du Cann, Mr Jam Sallie Lady du Cann, Colin du Cann-Cro Duncan-Sandys, Mrs Eckenstein, Mr Alan El Mrs Geoffrey Haag, Mr I Clifford Henderson, Hill, Mr and Mrs Richa Trevor Hudson, Mr R and Mrs Clement Kee Humphrey Kemball, Lloyd Thomas, McCorquodale. Mr Geo (also representing Sargeant), Mr and Maddocks. Mr and Mrs Mrs Keith Millar. Mascock, Mrs Marti Christopher Perrot Phillpson-Stow, Mrs Do Tim Prain, Mr John Pri Pritchard-Gordon, Pritchard-Gordon, Pritchard-Gordon, Mr a Quitman, Lady Rees, Sir Roy and Lady Redg Rhodes, Mr Martin Riley and Mrs Gerald Selous Sheridan, Mr and Sherren, Mr and Mrs R Wright, Mr Sam Soame Perer Trumper, Mrs C T R Uzielli.

Appointmen

Sir Terence English, dent of the Royal Surgeons, is to joi Commission for a thi

WITH the topsy-tu chaffinches began sin land last week, while were still silent in s land. However, the n in their territories flying conspicuously boundaries. House singing again, thoug no more than a fain string of everyday sparrows are still fee on weedy patches of the sexes are simila like dainty versions sparrows with a dar their cheek. Stock d ing to sing in the woods: they are sma than woodpigeons, on their wings or n song is a gruff doub

Hazel catkins freely and turning green to yellow. The silver on some sallo

TEL: 07

I am oppressed and come quickly to m my help and my Lord, do not dela Psalm 70:5 (REB)

BIRTHS

ATTRIDGE – January, to Ni Spence) and Mai Richard Christop

BARD – On Janua Barbara (King) an a son, David Rex

BAXTER-DERRIN On January 3rd, Peter, a son, Edw a brother for thanks to all the Heller Hospital, S

BOYLE – On 29th, Elda (née Kaldan, a daughter, Susannah Kalbia for Oliver.

COCKERELL – O 30th at St Paddington, to A and Michael, a Isobel Claudia.

DUDGEON – O 23rd, to Sarah and Murray, a Francesca Louise Zoë.

FERNES – On Janua Kings College London, to Br Hardman) and daughter, Julia

MANN – On Febr Annie (née L Andrew, twins, and a daughter, brother and sist and Daisy.

PATRICK – On J 30th, to Jane (né Philip, a son, Hu brother for Chri Thomas

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RUGBY LEAGUE

Robinson excites as Wigan reduce gap

Wigan 34
Bradford Northern 16

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

ON THE day they should have been in Sydney defending their World Sevens title, Wigan sparkled in the gloom of a foggy afternoon in Lancashire, gathering in two more valuable championship points to reduce St Helens' lead over them to four.

Jason Robinson, who scored two of their tries and had a hand in two of the others, was one of the reasons organisers objected to Wigan's participation in Sydney. His was one of ten names considered insufficiently big to merit inclusion. Australia's loss was, emphatically, Central Park's gain.

Robinson, 18, is an emerging talent blossoming on the right wing. One day he will surely graduate to half back, but for the moment a blistering kick, wicked side-step and wholesale commitment to attack, enable him, at times, to even eclipse the majestic Offiah on the opposite flank.

With close-range tries by Watson, McGowan and Simpson, Bradford Northern exposed Wigan's defensive vulnerability behind the play-the-ball, but the concession of four scores in 14 minutes in the first half had left the visitors too much to do to get back on equal terms.

They had been overwhelmed by the speed of Botica, Clarke and Robinson, who laid on the first try for Lydon, swooped on Offiah's pass for the second and was on the end of the third after Edwards's floated pass and the intervention of Hampson from full back had exposed the Bradford cover. Edwards left himself two tries short of 200 for the club after supporting a break by Hall, who was slipped into space by Clarke.

The foot came off the accelerator after early scores in the second half by Panapa and Betts.

SCORERS: Wigan: Tries: Robinson (2), Lydon, Edwards, Panapa, Betts. Goals: Botica (5). Bradford Northern: Tries: Watson, McGowan, Simpson. Goals: Hobbs (2).

WIGAN: S Hampson; J Robinson, D Bell, J Lydon, M Offiah; F Botica (sub: Betts), S Edwards; K Skerrett, M Hall, A Platt, D Betts (sub: S Panapa), I Gildart (sub: N Cowie), P Clarke (sub, Gildart).

BRADFORD NORTHERN: K Mumby (sub: R Simpson); D Powell, S McGowan, T Anderson (sub, Mumby), R Darkes; N Summers, D Watson, D Hobbs (sub: Boothroyd), B Noble, R Powell, A Boothroyd (sub: A Greenwood), K Fairbank, D Heron.

Referee: J Smith.

Sevens fail to set world alight

Alan Lee examines the problems of the rugby league world sevens, a competition struggling to live up to its billing

THE trouble with calling any sporting event a world championship is that so few sports have much of a world to speak of. Rugby league certainly does not, so this weekend's world sevens has worn the uncomfortable garb of a parish party with pretensions.

Rugby league's strongholds are Australia and England, though the game is not established in all areas of either country. Out here, where none of the various football codes are true national sports, league is played only in Sydney and Brisbane. The sevens final involved two Sydney clubs — Eastern Suburbs defeated Manly 18-12 — before a Sydney crowd longing for something more global.

The international representation looked good on paper. After all, America took part. And Russia. And South Africa. But the notion of rugby league is so far only a fledgling idea in these countries. Two-thirds of the 24 competing teams were Australian and none was British.

The American team was assembled with some late phone calls, which produced an imposter claiming to have played for Wigan and Oldham. Mark Gerathy, 27, was exposed 30 seconds into a training session as being unable to give a pass, and sent home to the United States.

Much hot air has been expended on the absence of Wigan, last year's winners, and Wales. But indignation has given way to a rueful appreciation of the problems for a British side flying round the world in mid-season.

Conciliation is at hand. Bob Ashby, representing the English League, said next year a Great Britain team would be sent, with only one player from any club. This pleased the organisers, who admitted Wigan would have put 5,000 a day on the attendance.

"This is not the Sydney sevens," Geoff Prenter, the event co-ordinator, said. "It is the world sevens. We may even take it away from here next year, if we don't feel Sydney has given enough support. Brisbane is a possibility — but we will also consider Wembley."

Wembley would enjoy it. The game is a bit like basketball, in that a play not producing points is a criminal waste, but the 65,000 who turned up over three days savoured the pace of seven minutes each way of constant action.

Like too many sporting events, the competition revolved around sponsorship and television. Coca-Cola, who appear to lend their name to everything in these parts, linked up with Channel 9 in an orgy of self-importance. No game could start until the referee received a signal from the Channel 9 man that his staff were ready and the sponsors' girls were in position.

It would be wrong, though, to belittle the motives and effects of the event. Rugby league's world may be small, but sevens is spreading the gospel. The game has become established in Fiji since last year's tournament, and they returned, curiously with two one-eyed players, apparently the legacy of a little warrior unrest.

Brisbane, the favourites, were put out in the first game and were back in Queensland by the time Manly saved the sponsor's blushes by losing a weary final. Manly, you see, have just signed a deal of their own, and the name on their backs was Pepsi Cola.

هكذا في الأصل

England's quest for unique third successive grand slam brought crashing to end in epic match at Cardiff

Wales celebrates brave new breed of heroes

Wales..... 10
England..... 9

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

THEY were singing and chanting on the pitch long after the players had left. Nearly half an hour after the last Welshman had been carried off in triumph the celebrations continued at Cardiff Arms Park, of a Welsh win, of a marvellous sporting occasion.

It is hard to recall, in a series so often tarnished by arrogant assumption, acts of violence, and cheap, melodramatic publicity, as fine a contest between Wales and England.

That Wales should have emerged the winners is a tribute to the players' own revised commitment to the game and the two men who have done so much to inspire their self-confidence, Alan Davies and Robert Norster.

Nor, like England's one-point win over France last month, could you ascribe it all to fortune, to intervening woodwork, to critical refereeing decisions: Wales worked, how they worked, to a plan which made the best of their abilities.

This is far from the best team Wales have fielded and in their next three five nations' championship matches they may yet trip up — notably in Paris — but they have put in place a stepping stone to the future.

Last season, Davies said, his primary work was on defence. This season he and Norster, one of the classic lineout leapers of the 1980s, have worked on the lineout.

Those were the two planks of victory in the match on Saturday, sponsored by British Gas, won by a goal and a penalty goal to two penalties and a dropped goal. Gareth Llewellyn, the Neath lock, was outstanding, confirming that this season he has come of age and, at 23, has so much further to go.

Yet England had been aware of their own possible failings: it was not enough, Geoff Cooke had said, to occupy territory if no points were scored. For virtually all the second passage of play, they haunted the Welsh half and came away with nothing. They gave away points to France and did so again here: Underwood's inability to appreciate incipient danger led to the only try of the game and may cost him his place.

The England forwards and scrum half could not be found wanting: Teague and the outstanding Morris did all two men could possibly do to make the difference and it was Morris who was involved in two vital decisions which, I believe, Joel Dumé got wrong. The French referee, who handled his first international with confidence, good humour and clarity, refused to give Morris a try in the first half and missed a head-high tackle by Rayer in the second which should have earned at least a penalty, if not a penalty try.

The law allows a player a try "if a tackle occurs in such a position that the tackled player, whilst complying with the law, is able to place the ball on or over the goal line". Morris, from a heel against the head, darted through a crowd of players, was brought down short but was able immediately to stretch out his arms over the line without another movement of his body.

Dumé ruled no try but gave England a penalty for offside, which Webb kicked. Whether the England full back would have kicked the penalty had Morris been given one after a pulverising 40-metre break is open to question but what should be added is that Rayer's despairing tackle was part of a brilliant defensive display in which, three times, he blocked chip-kicks and cleared danger by keeping his eye on the ball.

That was something England's backs proved woefully unable to do. For some seasons now we have talked of England's brilliant back division yet on Saturday they were unable to deliver.

Webb was solidity itself under the high ball but the towering garryowens launched by Jenkins gave the Welsh back row all the time it needed to cover the ground. In Gibbs and Hall Wales had two auxiliary flankers in midfield: Gibbs's tackling was immense.

Even so England seemed to have laid the groundwork for victory in the first half, surviving a furious Welsh assault in which Llewellyn was only just short before moving away to a 9-3 lead. Webb and Jenkins having exchanged early penalties, Webb added a second and the Welsh line barely survived the assaults of Carling and Moore, who knocked on ten metres short after a magnificent sidestep from Teague.

Guscott casually knocked over a left-footed dropped goal and the way seemed open before Underwood, ambling back to cover Lewis's kick, was mortified to see Evans scoot past him and kick on for the try. "It made England look fallible and human," Evans said. More so, when Jenkins kicked the conversion.

Even so, Bayfield lost the ball over the line, Webb hit the post with a penalty and should have been told to kick for goal with less than three minutes remaining, after Hunter had received an eye injury which required an operation and an overnight stay in hospital.

The full back felt he was out of range at something near 50 metres but, with so little time, it was worth the attempt and the chase. So, no third successive grand slam, no triple crown — not for England anyway.

SCORERS: Wales: Try: Evans. Conversion: Jenkins. Penalty goal: Jenkins. England: Penalty goals: Webb (2). Dropped goal: Guscott.

WALES: M A Rayer (Cardiff); I C Evans (Llanelli, capt), M R Hall (Cardiff), I S Gibbs (Swansea), W T Proctor (Llanelli); N R Jenkins (Pontypridd), R N Jones (Swansea); R L Evans (Llanelli), N Meek (Pontypool), H Williams-Jones (South Wales Police), E W Lewis (Llanelli), G O Llewellyn (Neath), A H Copsey (Llanelli), R E Webster (Swansea), S Davies (Swansea).

ENGLAND: J M Webb (Bath), I Hunter (Northampton, rep, P R de Glanville, Bath), W D C Carling (Harlequins, capt), J C Guscott (Bath), R Underwood ((Leicester); C R Andrew (Wasps), C D Morris (Orrell); J Leonard (Harlequins), B C Moore (Harlequins), J A Probyn (Wasps), M C Teague (Moseley), M C Bayfield (Northampton), W A Dooley (Preston Grasshoppers), P J Winterbottom (Harlequins), B B Clarke (Bath)

Referee: J Dumé (France).

DAVID ROGERS/SPORTSLINE

The try that never was: Morris has stretched for the line and seemingly secured reward for England's period of ascendancy in the first half at Cardiff

DETAILS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
France	2	1	0	1	26	19	2
Scotland	2	1	0	1	18	14	2
Wales	1	1	0	0	10	9	2
England	2	1	0	1	25	25	2
Ireland	1	0	0	1	3	15	0

RESULTS: Jan 16: England 16, France 15; Scotland 15, Ireland 3. Saturday: Wales 10, England 9; France 11, Scotland 3

FIXTURES: Feb 20: Ireland v France; Scotland v Wales. Mar 6: England v Scotland; Wales v Ireland. Mar 20: Ireland v England; France v Wales

Patriotic passion provides bolster for thin red line

Gerald Davies warns of the need for English calm if Wales are to build on the inspiration of Cardiff

FOR better or worse, this fixture is manacled to history. Inspiration comes from it. There is, you might say, a special relationship between England and Wales which often weds them to an uncomfortable alliance. Sometimes an unholy war breaks out, the air beforehand thick with old grievances revisited. It is not always, for rugby, the best place to be. Saturday's was.

Both national anthems were sung with pleasure. The signs were good; the spectacle taking shape. And the game and the mood proved, even with the errors, to be the best they have been for a long time. Wales having to defend a single point for the whole of the second half was drama of haemorrhagic high order.

Yet the past, like it or not, hangs over the game like a low cloud. Tradition plays its part; temperament too. Wales stand accused of making too much of this; England, perhaps, too little. There is no escape. So that so much of what has been and which might have nothing to do with rugby, visits the present. To be sure, there is much that is irrational.

You will not read any of this in any coaching manual. The prose, shying away from passion, cuts clean to reason and technique. To play a game needs a cool head and even cooler objective analyses. These are days of fitness routines, of charts and programmes, of statistics, of dietry considerations and all the other paraphernalia which is meant to hone performance. Nothing must be left to chance. If England have paved the way in this respect, Wales are now following.

But passion is the rogue factor. Unquantifiable, there is no accounting for it. Ieuan Evans, the Wales captain, pointed out that on such an occasion it is a matter of striking a balance between ignoring the emotions or paying them too much attention.

England, seeing it as so much padding, want to abandon any sense of passion, Wales want to ride the emotional wave. Temperaments differ. Yet, if it serves England's purpose to be cool, it is folly to ignore the inspiration passion gives to others. The red defensive line, so seemingly thin at times, was stitched together by it.

This is a strength as well as a weakness for Wales. A highly-charged motivation is permissable once. It does work. But for continued success, Wales needs more than this. A little of England's calm. If others get carried away, it is Alan Davies's role to put the success in its proper perspective for the players. The foundation of confidence, good spirit and consistency of approach is being laid. It is patient work. For it to have continued, there had to be something more.

This game mattered because Wales needed a significant win in front of their own crowd. If there is much that is left for Davies to achieve and the players to do, this game was significant because the Welsh team was the one to stop England, with all that meant for the old rivalry, from a third successive grand slam. It gave substance to the rhetoric.

MATCH FACTS

WALES 10 — ENGLAND 9

Attendance: 51,000

TERRITORIAL ADVANTAGE
Wales 32mins — England 53mins

POSSESSION ADVANTAGE
Wales 39mins — England 33mins

SCRUMS

	Award	Won	Ag hd	Void
Wales	16	11	0	6
England	11	8	0	2

LINEOUTS

	Award	Won	Void
Wales	22	20	2
England	26	23	3

HALF BACKS

	Received	Run	Kick	Pass
Jones	35	1	10	24
Morris	40	3	4	33
Jenkins	18	0	13	5
Andrew	27	2	9	16

KICKS AT GOAL

	Total	Con	Miss
Jenkins	2	2	0
Webb	4	2	2

For England, Guscott succeeded with one drop goal attempt and Andrew failed with one

Statistics compiled by Unisys

We felt the great prize slip slowly from our grasp

Rob Andrew reflects on the dream of a third successive grand slam which was shattered in Cardiff

THE walk back to our dressing-room at the end of the match was a trek which seemed to have no end. We made that walk like condemened men must walk to execution: numb and unaware of anything around them.

The dressing-room door closed on our historic grand slam aspirations. For between five and ten minutes there was silence. We looked at the floor, each man attempting to come to terms with the disappointment which we felt so intensely. At last, Will Carling managed a few words to try to pick us up. But we knew what had happened was Scotland 1990 all over again.

Not that we had been surprised. We knew it would be hard in Cardiff. In Scotland, when we lost the match which decided the grand slam three years ago, there was complacency; not this time. But the same feeling that a great prize had eluded us was omnipresent.

The wicked irony was that we played far better than against France three weeks earlier. We spent a lot of time attacking, created several scoring chances and thought we were going to win the game in the second half.

But we just did not score. We could not get in front and psychologically, as had been the case up in Scotland in 1990, that became critical.

Some may point to individual moments in the game which were costly — the Welsh try and Jonathan Webb's late penalty which hit a post. But we attach no blame to anyone in our side. Perhaps we just used up our luck at Twickenham. Although what made defeat all the harder to bear was the knowledge that we could easily have won.

The bitter disappointment we felt was because it was us that lost the match. We felt right from the word go that if we lost this season it would be because of ourselves.

We were held up three times over the Welsh line and Dewi Morris had a perfectly good try disallowed. Wales deserve credit; they defended extremely well and maintained their effort right to the end. But as the game progressed, we sensed that we were not going to win whatever we did.

So a third successive grand slam has gone. But we will bounce back. By the evening in Cardiff we had got ourselves in shape. No heads were down — indeed why should they have been? Once disappointment has been accepted, you become more analytical. We had a great night with the Welsh boys, one of the best I can remember in Cardiff.

Just as I like to think when we have won we have not gloated, none of the Welsh boys were crowing. They wanted victory very badly and showed that in the game. But we mixed well afterwards and that is the great strength of our sport.

We are still hopeful of winning this year's championship. It is good we now have a month off, but I do not expect significant changes to the side. You have to put these things in perspective; this one just got away.

☐ *Interview by Peter Bills*

WHO WAS THE ENERGY BEHIND WALES AND ENGLAND ON FEBRUARY 6th 1993?

THE BRITISH GAS CHALLENGE
WALES v ENGLAND CARDIFF FEBRUARY 6th 1993

British Gas
ENERGY IS OUR BUSINESS

Parker flies home-grown flag in Atkinson's global Villa

Key man: Parker, right, with Staunton

Aston Villa 2
Ipswich Town 0

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

A WORLD atlas is essential when plotting the origins of Aston Villa's title-challenging squad. Its roots range from Canaan, Tobago, to Berlin, from Fairfield, Australia, to Warsaw. French Guyana and Denmark receive honourable mentions, too.

Ron Atkinson, the Villa manager, has never been shy of the exotic or obscure. He would be the first to trade in the inter-galactic market if Micky Martian could play a bit, even if the lad was a shade green. Villa are thus multi-national, multi-talented and second, on goal difference, in the Premier League.

Much has been made of Atkinson's eye for an import and how he has blended continental flair with British ebullience, creating a vibrant side that ebbs and flows with grace and pace. Yet one of the key components in his armoury was bred just a short hop down the M40 from Villa Park.

Garry Parker spent his formative years in Oxford and played in the city's under-15 schools' team with Martin Keown, who moved from Everton to Arsenal for £2 million last week.

Parker's career has taken in Luton Town, Hull City and Nottingham Forest and, along the way, England Youth, England Under-21 and England B. A fringe involvement in the England senior squad borders on insult.

At 27, Parker possesses a rare football intelligence and awareness. His control is instant, his availability constant; his passing can be short and sweet or Hoddlesque, whichever the situation demands. He strikes the ball as cleanly as any and scores goals, too. Eight this season, from midfield, is gold dust. Managers pay dearly for such regular contributions.

Parker was again stoking the Villa fire on Saturday, and largely responsible for dismantling an Ipswich side that had lost fewer games than any other in the Premier League.

His role in the 32nd-minute breakthrough illustrated both patience and vision. Staunton's defensive header was drifting towards a corner flag before Froggatt swept it upfield to Parker. He spotted Staunton galloping alongside on the overlap but delayed his pass until he was sure the Ipswich cover was stretched to distraction.

Staunton delivered the cross and Yorke, the man from Canaan, dived to head home. It was a triumph for swift and incisive teamwork, and far removed from Villa's stunning second — from 35 yards, wide out on the right — three minutes before half-time. Saunders, born in Swansea, launched a wicked up-and-under in the style of a Wales stand-off half and Baker, the Ipswich goalkeeper, played the part of the hapless England full back by watching the ball veer over his head into the net.

It was Saunders's sixteenth goal of the season. "Of course I meant it," he said. "I suppose it has to be one of my best goals because I don't score many from outside the box. But I was more pleased with Wales beating England in the rugby."

While Parker provided the finesse, Richardson and Houghton supplied the steel for Villa's slick and, at times, spectacular display.

The pain from losing an FA Cup penalty shoot-out against Wimbledon three days earlier was erased with an ease both elegant and exhilarating.

Ipswich at least made Villa work for their win. Once they had overcome their initial caution, and abandoned a restrictive sweeper system because of Linighan's injury, they brought out the best in Bosnich, Villa's Australian goalkeeper. Ignoring a damaged shoulder, the 21-year-old made one superb save from a Whitton special.

Villa, though, had too much strength, of mind and body. Allied with self-confidence and an ever-increasing sense of great expectation, it is a potent brew.

Atkinson's global plundering is on the verge of vindication.

ASTON VILLA: M Bosnich, E Barrett, S Staunton, S Teale, P McGrath, K Richardson, R Houghton, G Parker, D Saunders, D Yorke (sub: S Beinlich). S Froggatt (sub: N Cox).
IPSWICH TOWN: C Baker, P Whelan, N Thompson, M Stockwell, J Wark, D Linighan (sub: G Johnson), G Williams, B Guentchev, S Whitton, J Dozzell, C Kiwomya.
Referee: P Durkin

Tottenham's four-goal burst sinks Southampton

Tottenham Hotspur.....4
Southampton 2

BY CLIVE WHITE

WHATEVER else Tottenham Hotspur achieve this season, they are assured of at least one entry in the record books with a phenomenonal bout of goalscoring at White Hart Lane yesterday.

It saw them score four goals in 4min 44sec early in the second half of what had hitherto been a game of precious little to record.

What made it all the more remarkable was that Tottenham have hardly been renowned for their scoring exploits at their north London home this season.

Indeed, only two other Premier League teams have scored fewer while Southampton are nothing if not unyielding, conceding only one more than Aston Villa, who are second in the table.

Such reputations, however, were shot to pieces by goals from Teddy Sheringham, with his third brace in four games, Nick Barmby and Darren Anderton, who at last made his presence felt by having a hand in all four goals.

The only comparable feat in the history books are two individual ones of four goals in five minutes by John McIntyre, for Blackburn Rovers against Everton in 1922, and W G Richards, for West Bromwich Albion against West Ham United in 1931.

I wonder, though, whether those opposing defences were as accommodating as Southampton's was during a spell when they might just as well have left the field for all the resistance they put up. One thing was sure, nobody, not even Tottenham, saw it coming.

The initial blame lay, ironically, with Dowie, who had given Southampton the lead in the 22nd minute and which they were still protecting, without too much difficulty, when Tottenham launched their goal blitz.

Dowie stood rooted to the spot in the 54th minute when Anderton's cross sailed over, leaving Sheringham with a straightforward far-post header.

Tottenham's leading goalscorer was soon to make full amends for two first-half misses.

Two minutes later, a cross by Anderton spun of Benali fortuitously into the path of Sheringham, whose ball back across the face of goal was converted by the unmarked and lurking Barmby at the far post.

A minute on, a cross by Samways was pushed out by Flowers and, as Southampton's luck would have it, straight to the isolated Anderton, who slotted home his goal with great composure for a young man who has waited all season, since his summer move from Portsmouth, to score his first league goal.

Another two-minute delay followed before Sheringham drove in another Anderton pass as Southampton defenders looked at one another in total disbelief.

Their response was, dare one say, unfortunately typical as Benali became the third Southampton player to be dismissed this season for a kick at Barmby that was straight out of a kung-fu manual.

More than that it meant that this handsome victory was achieved not without some cost.

As a result of the challenge, Barmby was led off with a serious elbow injury that may resolve the dispute between club and country over Barmby's participation with England in the world youth championship in Australia next month.

A second goal for Southampton in the 66th minute, from the head of Hall, was little consolation in the circumstances.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: E Thorstvedt; D Austin, J Edinburgh, V Samways, G Mabbutt, N Ruddock, D Howells (sub: A Gray), N Barmby (sub: P van den Hauwe), D Anderton, E Sheringham, P Allen.
SOUTHAMPTON: T Flowers; J Dodd, M Adams, T Hurlock, R Hall, K Monkou, M Le Tissier, N Banger, I Dowie, N Maddison, F Benali
Referee: K Redfearn.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

One for the future: Barmby scored Tottenham's second goal yesterday but was later taken off with an elbow injury

Sent-off Southall goes back to rulebook

BY IAN ROSS

NEVILLE Southall, Everton's experienced goalkeeper, may decide to miss training this morning in preference to studying football's rulebook. At Hillsborough on Saturday, Southall was sent off for the second time in six weeks for deliberately handling the ball outside the penalty area during the 3-1 Premier League defeat against Sheffield Wednesday.

Southall was dismissed three minutes before half-time after he had blocked a shot from Warhurst by instinctively raising his hands. He was also sent off against Queens Park Rangers at Loftus Road on December 28.

"It was only a minor infringement but he must learn his lesson," Howard Kendall, the Everton manager, said. "He is a tremendous professional and a brilliant goalkeeper but, on this occasion, he maybe made an error in coming out too far."

Manchester United will extend their lead at the top to three points over Aston Villa if they can defeat Leeds United this evening.

Twelve months after making his bow in English football in a Leeds shirt, Eric Cantona returns to Elland Road and will probably discover that his surprising £1 million transfer between the clubs will have lessened his appeal in west Yorkshire.

United displaced Norwich City, who did not play on Saturday, by overcoming Sheffield United 2-1, albeit with some discomfort. After Carr had silenced Old Trafford's largest audience of the season with a goal in the seventh minute, United had to wait until the final quarter before McClair and Cantona soothed their nerves.

Leeds's fall from grace was accelerated at Selhurst Park, where they were defeated 1-0 by Wimbledon. With Gillingham, who are bottom of the third division, Leeds share the dubious distinction of being the only English clubs not to have won away in the league this season.

The suspicion that Middlesbrough's stay in the Premier League, after promotion last year, might be brief gained more credence at Ayresome Park, where goals by Ndlovu and, inevitably, Quinn gave Coventry City a comfortable 2-0 victory.

Oldham Athletic scored their first goals in more than nine hours against faltering Chelsea at Boundary Park to move off the bottom of the table with a 3-1 win.

Whoever is destined to go down, Millwall may well be moving up from the first division. Two goals by Moralee helped them to a 5-2 success over Watford.

Tranmere Rovers also remain in the hunt, after a 1-0 win away at Cambridge United, but West Ham United were held 1-1 by a Barnsley side that turfed them out of the FA Cup last month.

Graham Turner's position as manager of Wolverhampton Wanderers is possibly precarious after a 2-1 home defeat by Brentford while Derby County's inability to win at home — they were 2-0 ahead against Peterborough United at the Baseball Ground but finished up 3-2 losers — makes promotion look a diminishing dream.

Ferdinand's final push provides teaser for Taylor

Queens Park Rangers ... 1
Manchester City 1

BY KEITH PIKE

THE player hoping to lead England's charge for World Cup goals against San Marino was about to give Graham Taylor one final nudge: politely, because that is his nature, but firmly, because a place in the attack at Wembley on Wednesday week could open the international floodgates for somebody.

Les Ferdinand had done everything right. The Rangers striker had stolen a yard on his marker, Vonk, as Sinton curled in a free kick from the left touchline, and an instinctive flick with the outside of the right foot sent the ball looping towards the top corner.

It was the sort of finishing that had brought him 12 goals this season, a place on the England bench against Turkey in November, and could have secured his place in the starting line-up against the group whipping boys.

Ferdinand, though, was to be denied, by a goalkeeper who should not have been playing and a save he had no right to make. Andy Dibble capped the most bizarre 48 hours of his career with a sensational stop, extending every one of his 74 inches and twisting in mid-air to tip the ball away one-handed.

Ferdinand was momentarily stunned but the player hoping to follow the path Cyrille Regis beat to the national team hid his disappointment well. "It was a fabulous save," said Ferdinand, 26, who, like Regis, blossomed after a £5,000 transfer from Hayes.

He hoped he had already done enough to remain in contention for an England debut. "I don't want to think about it until it happens but I'd like to be there," he said. "Everybody expects England to knock up a cricket score against San Marino but football doesn't work like that."

Dibble had made that very same point in rather more spectacular fashion. Ferdinand may be on the verge of an international career but here was a player whose own is probably over — after three caps for Wales — and who was just happy to be playing in the first-team again.

On Monday, seven months after breaking his leg in a pre-season game against Celtic and after a handful of comeback matches in City's reserve and A teams, Dibble had been allowed to join Oldham Athletic on loan.

He was due to play against Chelsea on Saturday only for the City manager, Peter Reid, to recall him on Friday when Tony Coton's deputy, Martyn Margetson, was injured in training.

Dibble's disappointment disappeared when Coton, having taken part in the warm-up, was suddenly struck down by a severe stomach bug.

Having obtained the permission of Mike Reed, the referee, and Gerry Francis, the Rangers manager, to amend his nominated team, Reid gave Dibble his unexpected chance.

It needed a penalty to beat him, Wilson putting Rangers ahead against his former club after Vonk had upended Impey midway through the second half, but Sheron's header from Phelan's cross earned City a deserved point.

Neither side is good enough to progress from the fringe to the championship race proper and City's hopes in the FA Cup — they knocked out Rangers in the fourth round and are at home to Barnsley on Saturday — dipped with the injuries that saw Quinn and McMahon detained in hospital overnight. "It will be two-a-side in training this week," Reid quipped.

QUEENS PARK RANGERS: A Roberts; D Bardsley, R Brevett, S Barker, D Maddix, A McDonald, C Wilson, A Impey, L Ferdinand, B Allen, A Sinton.
MANCHESTER CITY: A Dibble; R Reeson, T Phelan, S McMahon (sub: P Reid), K Curle, M Vonk, D White, M Sheron, N Quinn (sub: K Ingebrigsten), F Simpson, R Holden.
Referee: M Reed.

Ferdinand: polite nudge

THE TIMES TABLE OF THE FA PREMIER LEAGUE

	Wkly Ch'ge		P	Pts	Goal Diff	W	(H-A)	D	(H-A)	L	(H-A)	For	(H-A)	Agt	(H-A)	Recent Form
1	(+1)	Man Utd	27	50	+20	14	(9-5)	8	(3-5)	5	(2-3)	42	(25-17)	22	(10-12)	wwwwlw
2	(+1)	A Villa	27	50	+15	14	(9-5)	8	(3-5)	5	(2-3)	44	(28-16)	29	(13-16)	wwwwlw
3	(-2)	Norwich	26	48	+2	14	(8-6)	6	(4-2)	6	(1-5)	40	(20-20)	38	(12-26)	ddldww
4	(+4)	Coventry	28	42	+6	11	(5-6)	9	(3-6)	8	(6-2)	44	(22-22)	38	(18-20)	ldwwlw
5	(-1)	Ipswich	27	42	+5	10	(6-4)	12	(6-6)	5	(1-4)	36	(21-15)	31	(14-17)	wlwwl
6	(-1)	Blackburn	27	41	+10	11	(8-3)	8	(2-5)	8	(4-4)	40	(25-15)	30	(15-15)	ldwlll
7	(-1)	Man City	27	40	+9	11	(5-6)	7	(4-3)	9	(4-5)	39	(20-19)	30	(14-16)	dwlwwd
8	(-1)	QPR	26	40	+5	11	(6-5)	7	(5-2)	8	(3-5)	36	(26-10)	31	(21-10)	wwldwd
9	(0)	Sheff Wed	26	39	+5	10	(6-4)	9	(4-5)	7	(3-4)	35	(20-15)	30	(16-14)	dwwwww
10	(0)	Chelsea	27	36	-3	9	(4-5)	9	(5-4)	9	(4-5)	32	(15-17)	35	(16-19)	dlldll
11	(0)	Arsenal	25	35	+1	10	(6-4)	5	(3-2)	10	(4-6)	25	(16-9)	24	(11-13)	ddldwl
12	(+2)	Tottenham	27	35	-8	9	(6-3)	8	(4-4)	10	(4-6)	30	(19-11)	38	(17-21)	wllwww
13	(-1)	Liverpool	25	33	0	9	(7-2)	6	(3-3)	10	(3-7)	37	(25-12)	37	(14-23)	ldllwd
14	(-1)	Everton	27	32	-6	9	(4-5)	5	(4-1)	13	(5-8)	29	(12-17)	35	(15-20)	lwwwll
15	(0)	Leeds	26	31	-3	8	(8-0)	7	(4-3)	11	(1-10)	38	(29-9)	41	(13-28)	ldwlwl
16	(+2)	Wimbledon	27	30	-4	7	(4-3)	9	(4-5)	11	(6-5)	32	(18-14)	36	(19-17)	ddwlww
17	(-1)	Southmptn	27	30	-5	7	(5-2)	9	(5-4)	11	(3-8)	29	(16-14)	34	(12-22)	llwlwl
18	(-1)	Middlesbro	27	30	-9	7	(6-1)	9	(4-5)	11	(4-7)	36	(21-15)	45	(15-30)	lllwll
19	(0)	C Palace	27	30	-10	7	(3-4)	9	(5-4)	11	(5-6)	34	(16-18)	44	(18-26)	llllw
20	(+2)	Oldham	26	27	-10	7	(6-1)	6	(3-3)	13	(4-9)	38	(25-13)	48	(18-30)	wllllw
21	(0)	Nottm For	26	25	-9	6	(4-2)	7	(2-5)	13	(6-7)	26	(11-15)	35	(11-24)	lwwlwd
22	(-2)	Sheff Utd	26	25	-11	6	(5-1)	7	(5-2)	13	(2-11)	25	(15-10)	36	(10-26)	lldwll

TRANSFERS: Martin Keown (Arsenal) from Everton, £2m; Kenny Sansom (Everton) from Coventry, free; Chris Price (Portsmouth) from Blackburn, £55,000; Stuart Munro (Bristol C) from Blackburn, free. LOANS: Nathan Peel (Sheff Utd) to Halifax; Glenn Pennyfather (Ipswich) to Bristol C.

Celtic's season in ruins

NOT since the 1960s, when Jock Stein's Celtic side dominated Scottish football, has the gulf between the top Glasgow clubs been so pronounced. While Celtic yesterday accepted that their season was effectively over, Rangers were continuing their assault on four competitions.

Liam Brady, the Celtic manager, endured the task of trying to explain Celtic's 2-0 defeat at Falkirk in the Scottish Cup against a background of debts and power struggles in the boardroom. Brady, though, sidestepped the issue of his future. "Forget all about that," he said, "it's not important. My team found the tension which surrounded the game hard to deal with."

Celtic face only a scramble to qualify for next season's Uefa Cup.

QUARTER-FINAL DRAW: Heart of Midlothian v Falkirk; Cowdenbeath or Hibernian v Kilmarnock or St Johnstone; Aberdeen v Clydebank; Arbroath or East Fife v Rangers. Ties to be played on March 6.

Souness struggles to explain Liverpool's lifeless display

Liverpool 0
Nottingham Forest 0

BY IAN ROSS

WHEN a manager ends his post-match analysis by shrugging his shoulders and suggesting that the only positive aspect of his team's performance had been an ability to prevent the opposition from scoring, it is a clear indication of discontent.

Graeme Souness usually apportions blame and points the accusing finger only in private. It is one of the few Liverpool traditions he has not dispensed with during a period when the infrastructure, attitude and demeanour of the club seems to change on an almost weekly basis.

Modern etiquette demands that managers criticise other teams only rarely these days. Fouls are called indiscretions; the long ball is direct football; an outrageous fluke is a fortuitous rebound. In Forest's case, an appallingly negative attitude became a good defensive performance.

Had Souness not chosen to use the peculiar form of doublespeak so prevalent in his profession, he would presumably have stated the obvious by pointing out that Forest made no attempt to entertain, defended in numbers and thus totally ruined everyone's afternoon. It would have been roguishly undiplomatic but most welcome.

Under normal circumstances, a meeting of two teams of such pedigree, two teams whose desire to extol the virtues of the passing game has in the past often overshadowed a more fundamental need to win, would have represented something of a feast for the purist.

Unfortunately, these are not normal circumstances, as Souness and his opposite number, Brian Clough, would concede. Bearing in mind the rather dubious quality of many of those clubs seeking to embroider their reputations in the higher echelons of the Premier League, it is somewhat surprising to find Liverpool and Forest attempting to tread water in the deep end.

Both are said to be suffering from acute inconsistency. The illness would appear to be in an advanced state.

Liverpool, unchanged for the first time in 13 months, created just one reasonable chance in the entire 90 minutes. Bjornebye's cross into the penalty area in the 22nd minute drifted straight into the path of Barnes, who headed straight at Crossley.

The feeling that Forest could have actually won the game was always prevalent. Indeed, they would have emerged as undeserved victors had Bannister not squandered the simplest of chances in the 88th minute, when he drove Clough's cross high and wide.

As the final whistle sounded, the Forest players raised their arms skywards as if to celebrate a memorable triumph. It should, perhaps, have been pointed out to them that, rather than succeeding where Blackburn Rovers and Sheffield Wednesday had failed, they had failed where Bolton Wanderers and Wimbledon had succeeded.

It would have been interesting to hear Clough Sr's verdict on the match but he still refuses to enter into any form of dialogue with the media — in doublespeak or any other language.

LIVERPOOL: D Jarrett; M Marsh (sub: M Walters), R Jones, S Nicol, M Wright, S Bjornebye, S McManaman, J Redknapp, I Rush, J Barnes, P Stewart.
NOTTINGHAM FOREST: M Crossley; B Laws, B Williams, S Chettle, C Tiler, R Keane, G Bannister, S Gemmill, N Clough, T Orlygsson, I Woan.
Referee: K Barratt.

CC
SANDRINGH. NORFOLK
February 7: D held in West Church this mo:
The Rev Ca preached the Se
Mr Richard honour of bein Queen when He him with the In ant of the Royal
Mrs French w The Queen.
BUCKINGHAI February 6: Th Patron, Scottis accompanied Timothy Laurer

Funeral
Mr Hugh Robi
The funeral of son took place Chapel, South Thursday, Febr was conducted Gibraltar in Et were read by Mi Mrs Deborah S Keith Millar. present were:
Mrs Hugh Robin Robinson, Mr Ja Mrs Susan Robin Mrs Peter Adams, Aisher, Mr and Mrs Paris Beck, F Mr Richard Bare Bed, Mr and Mr Archie Birkmyre, Viscountess Brid Buckeridge, Mr Burroughs, Lord a William Carrig Clayton, Mr Antl Malby Crofton, Crosthwaite, Mr Mr Perry Crosthw Mr John Denison Mrs Gerald Drap Lady du Cann, M Saille Lady du C Colin du Car Duncan-Sandys, Eckersteln, Mr A Mrs Geoffrey Haa Clifford Hender Hill, Mr and Mrs Trevor Hudson, and Mrs Clemer Humphrey Kemi Lloyd Thom McCorquodale, M also represent Sargeantl, Mr Maddocks, Mr an Mrs Keith Mil Meacock, Mrs M Christopher P Phillpson-Stow, M Tim Pratt, Mr Jot Pritchard-Gord Pritchard-Gord Pritchard-Gordon Quilman, Lady R Sir Roy and Lady Rhodes, Mr Martl and Mrs Gerald Sheridan, Mr Sherren, Mr and Wright, Mr Sam S Peter Trumper, M R Uzielli.

Appointn
Sir Terence Eng dent of the Surgeons, is a Commission for

WITH the top chaffinches beg land last week, were still silent land. However, in their terrib flying conspicu boundaries. Hc singing again, tl no more than a string of every sparrows are sti on weedy patch the sexes are si like dainty versi sparrows with a their cheek. Sto ing to sing in woods: they are than woodpiger on their wings song is a gruff c
Hazel catkir freely and tur green to yellow. silver on some s

TEL: 0

I am oppressed a come quickly t my help and Lord, do not Psalm 70:5 (R

BIRTHS

ATTRIDGE - January, to Spence) and Richard Christ
BAIRD - On Ja Barbara (King) a son, David
BAXTER-DERB On January 3 Peter, a son. E a brother fo thanks to all Heller Hospita
BOYLE - On 29 Elda (née Kalb a daughte Susannah Kal for Oliver.
COCKERELL - 30th at Paddington, to and Michael, Isobel Claudia
DUDGEON - 23rd, to Sarr and Murray, Francesca Lou Zoë.
FERNS - On Ja Kings Colle London, to Hardman) a daughter, Jull
MANN - On Fe Annie (née Andrew, twin and a daught brother and s and Daisy.
PATRICK - Or 30th, to Jane Philip, a son, brother for Ci Thomas

IN MEMORI PRIVATE

KNOWLING - memory of Ell Rev. Dr. Knox Durham. Fe 1914.

Demoted pair find profit in loss

Lincoln City 1
Colchester United 1

By Louise Taylor

LINCOLN and Colchester have at least one thing in common. They are the only clubs to return to the Football League after being relegated to the GM Vauxhall Conference.

Lincoln bounced back at the first attempt, in 1988, whereas it took Colchester two seasons before they hauled themselves into the third division last August.

Saturday's draw at Sincil Bank left both as candidates for play-off places which, if achieved, would help justify the financial gambles taken by their chairmen in retaining full-time squads after leaving the League. Of Lincoln's 11 on Saturday, three were regulars in 1988, while six in Colchester's team played last year.

One local taxi driver, who did not even know Lincoln were at home on Saturday, said: "It was different when we won the Conference. People were more interested then and crowds good because, unusually for Lincoln, we had a winning side."

With the return of a run-of-the-mill League standing, apathy has crept back. Saturday's crowd was 3,380 at a ground where a seat in the main stand affords a splendid view of the cathedral. Three sides offer covered seating and the fourth will follow during the summer.

The start of rebuilding was dictated by demotion from the League because re-entry entailed not only winning the Conference but meeting strict criteria relating to ground conditions.

Many lower division stadiums would fail to match these demands. And unlike several of their third division peers, Lincoln and Colchester have modest debts — the sort that require the sale of a goodish player a season, but nothing more drastic. Neither need worry about liquidation.

With most seats at £5 at a club where Graham Taylor cut his managerial teeth, Lincoln offers football in an extremely pleasant environment. Toilet and refreshment facilites are commendable and food and drink costs appreciably less than at Premier League clubs, many of whom could learn much from a field trip to Sincil Bank.

LINCOLN CITY: M Pollitt, P Smith, D Clarke, I Baraclough, M Carmichael, G Brown, D West, G Bressington, N Matthews, P Costello, D Putnam.
COLCHESTER UNITED: C Emberson, M Granger, P Roberts, M Kinsella, P Cawley, A English, S Betts, G Bennett, D Martin, S McGavin, N Smith.
Referee: J Rushton

IAN STEWART

Finishing touch: Smith, left, the Arsenal forward, is mobbed by team-mates after scoring his second goal and his club's third against Crystal Palace at Selhurst Park yesterday. Arsenal won the Coca-Cola Cup semi-final first leg tie 3-1. Report, page 19

Bold Butcher bears burden of Sunderland's great expectation

Nicholas Harling sees a slow, though not unfamiliar, start to Terry Butcher's career as the player-manager of Sunderland

PERHAPS it is the vast, mostly untapped, potential of Sunderland football club that invariably leads it to go for big men as well as big names as managers.

Malcolm Crosby was the exception to the recent Roker rule and, consequently, his fall — accompanied by cries for the board's resignation rather than his head — was less dramatic than those of Lawrie McMenemy and Denis Smith, the more imposing figures before him.

Malcolm Allison has yet to receive the call to Roker but in Terry Butcher, Sunderland have returned to a familiar trend.

At 6ft 4in, they do not come much bigger than Butcher, whose debut as player-manager was, like his playing debuts for Ipswich Town, Rangers, Coventry City and Sunderland, a losing one — Swindon Town winning 1-0 at Roker Park on Saturday.

"It was not something I told the chairman during the interview," he admitted.

Butcher made genuine, polite noises about his team's spirit, endeavour and youthful promise but, from his position on the pitch rather than the dug-out, he was maybe not the best person to judge.

Sunderland were without Goodman, who may return against Oxford United tomorrow, Cunnington and Owers. They also squandered two penalties that could have turned defeat into a much-needed victory.

But the bitter truth is that Butcher faces an enormous challenge, far greater than that, for instance, confronting Glenn Hoddle, his former England team-mate.

But then Hoddle, in a similar capacity with Swindon, has the advantage of being at a club whose expectations are far lower.

If Swindon had reached the FA Cup final, they would still be basking in the glory. For Sunderland, languishing low down in the first division — nine months after finishing runners-up to Liverpool at Wembley — it is simply not enough, as Hoddle himself was astute enough to point out.

"Terry knows he has a difficult job but it is a difficult job that could become a wonderful job if things start to go well," he said. "If things don't go well, it could be the worst possible place to be in."

Norman: spared blushes

It could, indeed, have been much worse for Butcher.

Within 20 minutes of being greeted with the chants of "There's only one Terry Butcher" from the Fulwell End, he was being rescued from an embarrassing header into his own goal by the athleticism of Norman, the Sunderland goalkeeper.

Worse still could have followed for the big man when Mitchell, chasing White's forward pass, beat Butcher all ends up for speed before being painfully grounded.

Under the new rules for professional fouls, when there is only the goalkeeper left to beat, Butcher had to go.

But amid an unbearable hush, Kenneth Lynch, the referee, produced a yellow rather than red card.

"My heart was in my mouth," Butcher said. "But the referee told me there were other players getting back. Quite where those players were I don't really know but I am certainly pleased he saw them."

The officials also saw Swindon infringements not visible to either set of players. Even Butcher considered that both penalties, awarded against Taylor and Bodin for handball, were harsh.

Justice was done when Digby tipped Armstrong's shot against an upright and then Ball rammed his kick — the very last of an eventful match — well wide.

It made Ball the fifth Sunderland player to miss from the spot this season.

Sorting out the next penalty taker will be Butcher's immediate priority. He would also do well to find someone to subdue opponents as lively as Ling.

Permitted the freedom of Roker, the midfield player eventually provided the decisive pass from which Bodin struck his third goal in as many games to give Hoddle's team a victory fully deserved for its attractive and superior football.

For Butcher, the pain was not all in the mind. He finished with a broken bone in his hand as well.

SUNDERLAND: A Norman; J Kay, A Smith, B Atkinson, T Butcher, K Ball, B Mooney, M Gray, P Davenport (sub: J Colquhoun), D Rush, G Armstrong.
SWINDON TOWN: F Digby; D Kerslake, P Bodin, G Hoddle, C Calderwood, S Taylor, N Summerbee, R McLaren, D Mitchell, M Ling, S White.
Referee: K Lynch.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Jacobs gets revenge for Paris injustice

GARY Jacobs became king of the European boxing welterweights on Saturday and now he wants to rule the world (Bryan Stiles writes). He bludgeoned his way to a ninth-round victory over Ludovic Proto, of France, in Paris to make up for the shameful treatment he received in the same city last October when Proto was given the verdict, even though the neutrals at ringside were convinced the Glaswegian was way ahead on points. The European Boxing Union ordered Saturday night's rematch.

Jacobs opened up a nasty cut on Proto's right eyelid in the second round and switched his attack to the body at the end of the sixth. A powerful left hook from Jacobs in the eighth was the prelude to a savage onslaught. The bell saved Proto but his cornermen soon threw in the towel.

"My next move is to get Gary a world title fight in Glasgow if possible," Mickey Duff, his manager, said. "He will fight any one of the four who hold world titles and I will wire all four commissions and ask them to make Gary their No. 1." Jacobs is more likely to defend his newly-won European title first, probably in June or July.

Dampier impresses

ICE HOCKEY: Not only MCC members are unhappy with team selection (Norman de Mesquita writes). Followers of the Heineken League cannot understand how the Great Britain coach, Alex Dampier, can possibly ignore Anthony Payne of the Billingham Bombers. Three weeks ago, he scored eight goals in his side's win over Murrayfield Racers. On Saturday, he scored three goals and was credited with seven assists as the Bombers recorded a fourth successive home premier division victory, a club record, at the expense of Whitley Warriors. It was a bitter-sweet evening for Terry Matthews, whose appointment as coach has seen a remarkable revival in the fortunes of the Billingham club, for he spent his entire playing career at Whitley Bay and gained his first coaching appearance with them.

Coghlan nears barrier

ATHLETICS: Eamonn Coghlan moved closer to the first sub four-minute mile by a veteran in New York on Friday night when he improved the veterans' world record to 4min 05.95sec, as it came to light that the British Athletic Federation (BAF) had rejected a £10,000 offer to promote a British-staged attempt on the barrier (David Powell writes). A bookmaker had wanted to stage the race in Britain, 39 years after Roger Bannister's feat at Oxford, an initiative welcomed by the British Veterans' Athletic Federation (BVAF), but in a letter to the veterans' federation, Malcolm Jones, the BAF chief executive, said that betting in the sport should not be encouraged.

Oldham stop Waldron

BASKETBALL: Gene Waldron's high-scoring run for Leicester Riders came to an abrupt end on Saturday against the least likely opponent (Nicholas Harling writes). At 5ft 6in, Scott Summersgill concedes nine inches to the prolific American but the Oldham Celtic player was more than a match for the Carlsberg League's highest scoring individual of 1993. Over 30 points had come Waldron's way in each of his last six games but the athleticism of Summersgill, 23, restricted him to 14 in Leicester's 103-81 defeat that may yet put Oldham in the play-offs at their expense. "Scott was an absolute nobody," Yaro Martyniuk, Oldham's assistant coach, said. "Yet now he's as fast as anyone in the League."

Bates reaps reward

TENNIS: Jeremy Bates earned the biggest pay cheque of his 11-year career and improved his world ranking from No. 114 to a place in the top 80 yesterday, after losing to Fabrice Santoro, of France, 6-2, 6-3 in the semi-finals of the Dubai Open. With his doubles earnings, the British No. 1 collected £40,000. After Saturday's programme had been washed out by 3½ inches of rain, on Dubai's wettest day for five years, Bates was forced to play his quarter-final and semi-final matches within a couple of hours. He beat the No. 4 seed, Carl-Uwe Steeb, 7-5, 6-1, but was unable to lift his game again against Santoro.

WEEKEND FOOTBALL RESULTS AND TABLES

Premier League

A VILLA (2) 2 IPSWICH (0) 0
Yorke 33, Saunders 42 — 25,395
LIVERPOOL (0) 0 NOTTM FOR (0) 0
40,463
MANCHESTER U (0) 2 SHEFFIELD U (1) 1
McClair 65, Cantona 79 — Carr 7 — 36,156
MIDDLESBRO (0) 0 COVENTRY (0) 2
14,008 — Ndlovu 68 Quinn 79
OLDHAM (1) 3 CHELSEA (0) 1
Henry 38 Adams 61, Brennan 71 — Harford 89 — 11,772
QPR (0) 1 MANCHESTER C (0) 1
Wilson 66 (pen) — Sheron 76 — 13,003
SHEFFIELD W (2) 3 EVERTON (0) 1
Warhurst 16, Harkes 17, Waddle 62 — Cottee 83 — 24,979
WIMBLEDON (0) 1 LEEDS (0) 0
Holdsworth 61 — 6,704

Yesterday

TOTTENHAM (0) 4 SOUTHAMPTON (1) 2
Sheringham 55, 60, Barmby 56 Anderton 58 — Dowie 22 Hall 66 — 20,098

Coca-Cola Cup Semi-final, first leg

C PALACE (0) 1 ARSENAL (2) 3
Osborn 54 (pen) — Wright 10 (pen), Smith 21, 66 — 26,508

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Aylesbury 1, Grays 2; Basingstoke 0, Kingstonian 0; Bromley 0, Enfield 5; Dulwich 1, Marlow 1, Harrow 2, Hayes 2; Hendon 1, Staines 1, Stevenage Borough 1 Chesham 0; Sutton United 2, Yeading 2; Windsor and Eton 1, Carshalton 4; Wivenhoe 4, Bognor Regis 1; Wokingham 1, St Albans 3. First division: Billericay 4, Bishop's Stortford 0, Boreham Wood 0, Molesey 0, Chalfont St Peter 2, Aveley 2; Heybridge Swifts 1, Abingdon Town 2; Lewes 1, Barking 2; Leyton 2, Croydon 1; Purfleet 1, Hitchin 2, Uxbridge 1, Dorking 2; Wembley 1, Tooting and Mitcham 0; Whyteleafe 2, Walton and Hersham 0. Second division: Barton 1, Southall 1; Edgware 2, Hemel Hempstead 2, Egham 1; Berkhamsted 1, Harefield 0, Hampton 1; Leatherhead 1, Saffron Walden 2, Metropolitan Police 0, Chertsey 1, Ruislip Manor 3, Malden Vale 0; Tilbury 2, Witham 2, Ware 1, Newbury 1; Worthing 5, Rainham 2. Third division: Bracknell 1, Collier Row 1; Camberley 0, Hertford 2; East Thurrock 1, Petersfield 1; Epsom and Ewell 2, Northwood 5; Flackwell Heath 0, Cove 3; Horsham 1, Leighton 1, Royston 2, Clapton 1; Thame 1, Hornchurch 0; Tring 2, Kingsbury 3

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone 4, Solihull 2; Bashley 1, Cheltenham 3, Chelmsford 2, Worcester 0; Corby 3, Waterlooville 1; Crawley 2, Burton 2; Dover 3, Dorchester 0; Gloucester 3, Halesowen 1, Moor Green 3, Hastings 0; Trowbridge 3, Hednesford 2; Weymouth 2, Cambridge City 0. Midland division: Grantham 1, Newport AFC 0; King's Lynn 0, Weston-super-Mare 2, Leicester United 8, Bridgnorth 1 Nuneaton Borough 8, Redditch 1, RC Warwick 0, Tamworth 1; Rushden and Diamonds 3, Dudley 2; Stourbridge 5, Sutton Coldfield 1, Yate 1, Evesham 0. Southern division: Andover 0, Margate 0, Ashford 7, Braintree 4; Bury Town 0, Salisbury 3, Fareham 1, Sittingbourne 2, Havant 1, Baldock 0; Poole 2, Burnham 1, Sudbury 1, Canterbury City 0; Wealdstone 2, Fisher Athletic 0; Witney 2, Erith and Belvedere 1

Barclays League First division

BRISTOL R (0) 0 OXFORD (0) 1
5,593 — Melville 67
CAMBRIDGE (0) 0 TRANMERE (0) 1
4,802 — McNab 88
DERBY (2) 2 PETERBORO (2) 3
Kitson 13, 19 — 16,062 — Curtis 40, Philliskirk 44, Adcock 72
GRIMSBY (0) 1 CHARLTON (0) 0
Rodger 66 — 5,403
LUTON (1) 2 LEICESTER (0) 0
Johnson 41 Gray 61 — 9,140
MILLWALL (4) 5 WATFORD (0) 2
Morales 6, 52 Rae 9, Cooper 17 Goodman 35 — Furlong 50 Nogan 62 — 8,847
NOTTS COUNTY (2) 3 BIRMINGHAM (0) 1
Smith 10 (pen), Matthews 45, Bartlett 73 — Potter 61 — 8,550
PORTSMOUTH (1) 2 BRISTOL C (1) 3
Walsh 9 Whittingham 48 — Shelton 16 Bryant 74, Gavin 83 — 10,675
SUNDERLAND (0) 0 SWINDON (0) 1
17,234 — Bodin 52
WEST HAM (1) 1 BARNSLEY (1) 1
Jones 10 — Rammell 43 — 14,101
WOLVES (0) 1 BRENTFORD (0) 2
Mutch 49 — Allon 68 (pen), 70 — 12,361

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
		HOME					AWAY					
Newcastle	28	10	3	1	29	8	9	2	3	23	16	62
West Ham	28	8	3	2	28	11	7	4	4	24	16	52
Millwall	28	11	3	0	41	11	3	6	5	11	16	51
Tranmere	26	10	4	0	35	9	4	2	6	15	24	48
Portsmouth	28	10	1	2	27	6	2	7	6	21	28	44
Swindon	27	8	4	2	27	17	4	4	5	19	23	44
Grimsby	28	8	3	3	23	17	5	1	8	19	20	43
Leicester	28	7	4	4	23	18	5	2	6	16	18	42
Charlton	29	6	7	2	20	13	4	4	6	15	16	41
Wolves	29	7	5	3	26	18	3	5	6	13	17	40
Peterboro	26	3	7	4	18	19	7	1	4	18	19	38
Watford	29	5	5	4	22	21	4	4	7	21	31	36
Oxford Utd	27	5	6	3	23	13	3	6	4	17	21	36
Brentford	28	6	3	6	22	21	4	3	6	17	20	36
Barnsley	28	7	3	4	17	11	3	3	8	17	21	36
Derby	27	3	0	9	19	25	7	5	3	24	14	35
Bristol C	28	5	5	4	18	18	3	2	9	15	34	31
Sunderland	26	5	3	6	19	19	3	3	6	9	20	30
Notts Co	28	4	5	5	18	18	2	5	8	16	31	28
Cambridge	28	5	3	6	17	20	1	7	6	15	28	28
Luton	27	2	7	4	14	21	3	5	6	14	24	27
Birmingham	27	6	1	5	16	19	1	5	9	8	28	27
Bristol R	29	4	2	9	20	31	3	3	8	17	29	26
Southend	28	4	5	4	17	12	2	3	10	12	35	26

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division: Accrington Stanley 1, Fleetwood 0, Barrow 5, Colwyn Bay 0; Emley 1, Droylsden 3; Frickley 1, Leek 2; Gainsborough 1, Mossley 1, Hyde 3, Goole 3; Marine 1, Buxton 3; Southport 3, Matlock 0; Whitley Bay 0, Morecambe 3; Winsford 2, Bishop Auckland 0. First division: Alfreton 1, Caernarfon 0; Curzon Ashton 2, Congleton 2; Farsley Celtic 1, Great Harwood 0, Harrogate 3, Rossendale 0; Guiseley 3, Warrington 2, Knowsley 1, Worksop 0; Lancaster City 1, Eastwood Town 0; Netherfield 0, Shepshed Albion 0; Workington 3, Ashton United 2.

ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH CUP: Fifth round: Llansantffraid 0, Rhyl 4, Wrexham 1, Merthyr 0

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ballymena 3, Newry 2; Bangor 2, Crusaders 1, Carrick 0, Linfield 4; Cliftonville 3, Larne 1, Coleraine 1, Ards 3; Distillery 1, Glenavon 2; Glentoran 5, Ballyclare 0, Portadown 3, Omagh Town 1.

NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Brandon 2, Guisborough 3; Chester Le Street 4, Billingham Synthonia 3; Durham City 2, Northallerton 2, Ferryhill Athletic 0, Blyth Spartans 1, Hebburn 5, Stockton 1; Newcastle Blue Star 0, West Auckland 0; Peterlee Newtown 1, Easington Colliery 2; Tow Law 1, Consett 1.

Second division

BLACKPOOL (1) 2 WEST BROM (1) 1
Horner 8, 64 — Taylor 24 — 9,386
BOURNEMOUTH (2) 2 PRESTON (0) 1
Ekoku 5, McGorry 37 — Tinkler 75 — 3,801
BRIGHTON (0) 1 L ORIENT (2) 3
Kennedy 86 — Otto 11, 28, 52 — 7,850
CHESTER (1) 2 BRADFORD (3) 5
Rimmer 40 Bishop 78 — Reid 12 Torpey 25, Duxbury 33, 51, Williams 71 — 2,594
FULHAM (1) 1 PORT VALE (1) 2
Eckhardt 44 — Taylor 28, Kerr 58 — 4,905
HUDDERSFIELD (0) 1 BOLTON (1) 1
O'Regan 61 (pen) — Walker 2 — 8,858
PLYMOUTH (0) 3 MANSFIELD (1) 2
Nugent 49, 55, 69 — Wilkinson 4, 56 — 4,630
READING (0) 2 HARTLEPOOL (0) 0
Williams 73, Quinn 90 — 3,431
ROTHERHAM (1) 1 EXETER (0) 1
Goater 2 — Jepson 71 — 4,210
STOKE (2) 3 HULL (0) 0
Ware 5 Foley 43, Stein 85 — 15,391

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
		HOME					AWAY					
Stoke	28	10	3	0	28	9	7	6	2	24	15	60
West Brom	28	9	3	2	29	12	5	4	5	16	16	49
L Orient	29	11	3	1	34	12	3	3	8	13	20	48
Port Vale	25	8	5	0	28	9	5	3	4	19	17	47
Bradford	29	7	4	3	21	14	4	6	5	24	31	43
Rotherham	26	7	4	2	19	13	5	3	5	16	16	43
Bolton	26	8	2	3	26	10	4	4	5	20	19	42
Stockport	25	7	6	0	29	10	4	2	6	16	19	41
Brighton	27	7	3	3	18	13	4	4	6	17	21	40
Fulham	26	4	5	4	18	18	5	6	4	21	22	38
Hartlepool	26	6	3	5	14	14	4	5	3	15	15	38
Reading	28	6	3	5	26	15	3	6	5	15	18	36
Swansea	27	4	6	2	18	8	4	6	5	18	19	36
Burnley	27	6	5	2	17	11	3	4	7	12	24	36
Plymouth	27	8	5	0	22	9	1	4	9	6	25	36
Bournemouth	26	5	5	3	15	12	3	4	6	9	15	33
Exeter	28	4	4	6	18	19	3	7	4	15	24	32
Hull	27	6	2	6	18	17	2	5	6	12	23	31
Preston	27	5	4	6	25	26	3	2	7	16	25	30
Blackpool	28	5	6	3	24	20	2	2	10	11	27	29
Wigan	26	4	5	5	18	18	3	2	7	10	21	28
Mansfield	27	4	5	4	22	22	1	3	10	7	28	23
Chester	29	4	2	9	23	32	1	2	11	13	30	19
Huddersfield	24	3	3	6	11	13	1	3	8	11	27	18

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Brantham Athletic 3, Histon 2; Brightlingsea 0, Newmarket 3; Cornard 1, Harwich and Parkeston 1; Diss 5, Halstead 0; Felixstowe 2, Great Yarmouth 0; Gorleston 1, Chatteris 2; Haverhill 1, Stowmarket 0; Lowestoft 1, Wisbech 3; March Town 1, Tiptree 3.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Armthorpe Welfare 0, Spennymoor 1; Ashfield 1, Ossett Town 0; Denaby 1, Brigg 1; Glasshoughton Wel 2, Sheffield 0; Harrogate Ra 1, Liversedge 2; North Ferriby 3, Pontefract Col 0; Ossett Albion 1, Pickering 2; Stocksbridge PS 3, Eccleshill 1; Thackley 0, Maltby MW 0; Winterton Rangers 0, Belper 3.

Third division

BARNET (0) 2 CHESTERFIELD (0) 1
Stein 78, Huxford 88 — Lancaster 64 — 3,401
BURY (2) 3 DONCASTER (0) 0
Stevens 18, Hulme 36, 78 — 2,496
DARLINGTON (0) 0 CARDIFF (0) 2
1,775 — Pike 75, 87 (pen)
HALIFAX (2) 2 ROCHDALE (2) 3
Jones 13 (og), Barr 45 (pen) — Butler 1 Reid 38 (pen), Mulrain 46 — 1,906
LINCOLN (0) 1 COLCHESTER (0) 1
Bressington 81 — Martin 75 — 3,380
NORTHAMPTON (1) 2 GILLINGHAM (2) 2
Brown 38, Bell 90 — Baker 40, Ritchie 44 — 3,812
SCARBORO (1) 2 HEREFORD (0) 0
Lightbourne 3, Mooney 84 — 1,467
SHREWSBURY (0) 1 YORK (1) 1
Taylor 68 — Canham 43 — 3,532
TORQUAY (0) 1 CREWE (1) 2
Darby 66 — Clarkson 35, Naylor 65 — 1,931
WALSALL (1) 2 CARLISLE (0) 1
Edmondson 39 (og), Cecere 56 — Oghani 81 — 2,817

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
		HOME					AWAY					
Barnet	26	12	2	0	35	12	4	4	4	14	17	54
York	27	8	5	0	28	8	4	5	4	18	22	49
Wrexham	26	8	2	3	32	19	6	4	3	17	18	48
Cardiff	26	8	4	1	27	14	6	1	6	18	18	47
Shrewsbury	25	9	1	4	24	17	4	4	3	12	11	44
Scarborough	24	6	3	1	18	8	6	2	6	26	29	41
Walsall	26	6	4	3	26	21	6	0	7	21	23	40
Lincoln	24	6	3	3	16	12	6	1	5	16	17	40
Rochdale	25	5	3	4	25	18	5	4	4	24	24	37
Bury	24	7	3	2	21	11	4	1	7	17	25	37
Colchester	27	8	2	4	25	20	3	1	9	15	27	36
Crewe	23	6	0	4	20	14	5	1	7	20	25	34
Chesterfield	25	6	1	5	20	17	3	5	5	17	22	33
Doncaster	28	5	2	6	16	17	3	6	6	13	23	32
Scunthorpe	23	4	4	3	20	14	4	2	6	10	15	30
Darlington	26	3	3	7	14	21	4	5	4	13	14	29
Carlisle	25	5	2	6	22	20	2	5	5	14	17	28
Halifax	27	2	4	7	18	22	4	3	7	20	24	25
Hereford	26	3	8	3	19	18	2	2	8	12	33	25
Northampton	26	3	4	7	13	21	3	2	7	17	25	24
Torquay	26	3	2	8	10	18	4	0	9	19	29	23
Gillingham	25	4	2	7	19	20	0	6	6	10	18	20

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Afan Lido 3, Maesteg Park 3; Caersws 6, Mold 2; Haverfordwest 1, Aberystwyth 3, Holywell 0, Connah's Quay 0; Inter Cardiff 1, Abergavenny 0; Llanidloes 3, Conwy 0; Newtown 1, Flint Town 2.

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: West Wickham 4, South Bank Poly 0; Civil Service 1, Old Esthamelans 3; Old Actonians 2, Old Parkonians 1; Old Bromleians 3, Carshalton 3, Norsemen 3, Crouch End Vampires 3. Broomfield 1, Barclays 0; Alexandra Park 1, Polytechnic 3, Kew Association 0, Southgate Olympic 2; Lensbury 4, Old Salesians 0; Ibis 1, Winchmore Hill 2; Reigate Priory 1, Brentham 3; Old Parmiterians 2, Merton 1; Old Latymerians 4, Royal Bank 0; Old Westminster Cits 1, Bank 0; East Barnet OG 4, Old Lyonians 0

GM Vauxhall Conference

ALTRINCHAM (0) 1 BATH (0) 0
Freeman 67 — 520
BROMSGROVE (0) 1 DAGENHAM (1) 2
Whitehouse 74 — Cavell 3, Broom 47 — 1,120
FARNBOROUGH (1) 2 RUNCORN (1) 3
Lawerby 26, Horton 83 — Shaughnessy 16, McKenna 49, 69 — 581
GATESHEAD (0) 2 BOSTON (1) 2
Comer 71, Dobson 78 — Moss 8, Graham 82 — 362
NORTHWICH (0) 1 WOKING (0) 0
Hemmings 85 — 984
SLOUGH (1) 2 STALYBRIDGE (1) 3
Brown 34 (og) Sayer 86 — Brown 42 Kirkham 63, Edwards 85 — 859
STAFFORD (1) 1 MACCLESFIELD (0) 0
Palgrave 16 — 1,025
WELLING (1) 1 KETTERING (0) 1
Robbins 43 — Wright 90 — 838
WYCOMBE (1) 1 KIDDERMNSTR (0) 1
Hutchinson 13 — Palmer 89 — 4,379
YEOVIL (0) 1 TELFORD (0) 0
Sanderson 60 — 2,207

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
		HOME					AWAY					
Wycombe	26	10	2	0	34	6	7	4	3	30	14	57
Slough	25	10	1	4	32	18	4	4	2	11	11	47
Dagenham	25	6	3	3	28	14	6	4	3	16	11	43
Bromsgrove	25	6	4	3	22	15	4	5	3	14	14	39
Northwich	26	3	3	7	14	18	8	2	3	29	13	38
Woking	27	4	2	6	12	17	7	3	5	25	25	38
Telford	24	6	3	3	22	18	4	4	4	14	17	37
Yeovil	24	7	2	2	21	10	3	4	6	10	18	36
Gateshead	25	6	5	3	17	13	4	1	6	17	22	36
Stalybridge	26	2	7	3	14	20	6	4	4	20	18	35
Kettering	26	7	3	4	25	19	1	5	6	16	24	32
Bath	24	5	4	3	18	15	3	3	6	16	15	31
Farnborough	28	6	3	6	27	25	2	4	7	20	33	31
Welling	29	5	5	5	23	26	2	4	8	20	39	30
Kidderminster	24	5	3	5	12	15	2	5	4	15	16	29
Runcorn	27	6	2	6	19	21	2	3	8	12	30	29
Witton	23	3	5	3	18	17	3	5	4	15	15	28
Altrincham	23	2	5	4	10	15	5	2	5	13	16	28
Merthyr	22	1	3	6	9	23	7	1	4	17	19	28
Stafford	19	4	3	4	14	15	3	2	3	12	11	26
Boston	27	3	4	6	16	22	3	4	7	16	25	26
Macclesfield	23	3	2	4	11	10	4	1	9	14	22	24

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Arsenal 0, Fulham 0; Cambridge United 4, Southend 1; Ipswich 1, Charlton 2; Millwall 2, Leyton Orient 2, Norwich 0, Portsmouth 0, QPR 4, Gillingham 0; Tottenham 6, Chelsea 1; West Ham 5, Watford 0. Second division; Brighton 0, Bournemouth 3; Bristol City 2, Brentford 1; Bristol Rovers 2, Tottenham 2; Luton 0, Southampton 3; Oxford United 2, Crystal Palace 1; Reading 2, Colchester 0; Swindon 0, Wimbledon 1.

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Cardinal Manning 1, Tensonians 1; Meadonians 3, Danes 0; Wilsonians 3, Enfield 2.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bristol Manor Farm 3, Chard 0, Chippenham 2, Liskeard Athletic 2; Exmouth 1, Plymouth Argyle 1; Frome 5, Minehead 1; Saltash 1, Torquay United 0; Taunton 0, Paulton 0; Torrington 2, Mangotsfield 0; Westbury 4, Dawlish 0.

Tennents Scottish Cup Fourth round

ARBROATH (0) 0 E FIFE (0) 0
2,984
AYR (0) 0 RANGERS (1) 2
13,176 — McCoist 39, Gordon 76
COWDENBEATH (0) 0 HIBERNIAN (0) 0
4,509
FALKIRK (1) 2 CELTIC (0) 0
Duffy 45, May 82 — 13,012
HEARTS (1) 2 DUNDEE (0) 0
Ferguson 44, Robertson 90 — 12,021
KILMARNOCK (0) 0 ST JOHNSTONE (0) 0
9,278

Yesterday

ABERDEEN (0) 2 DUNDEE UTD (0) 0
Jess 76, 85 — 14,500
E STIRLING (1) 1 CLYDEBANK (1) 2
Geraghey 22 — Eadie 21, Flannigan 53 — 1,177

Scottish League Premier division

MOTHERWELL (0) 0 AIRDRIE (0) 0
5,382

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
		HOME					AWAY					
Rangers	26	12	1	0	30	7	9	3	1	33	14	46
Aberdeen	27	9	3	2	31	7	8	2	3	30	14	39
Celtic	28	6	4	4	24	16	7	5	2	20	14	35
Hearts	29	9	4	2	17	8	3	6	5	14	18	34
Dundee Utd	28	5	5	4	15	16	6	1	7	14	17	28
St Johnstone	29	6	6	2	21	17	2	4	9	15	30	26
Hibernian	28	5	6	3	20	17	2	4	8	13	24	24
Partick	28	4	4	6	20	27	4	4	6	15	19	24
Dundee	28	5	2	7	18	23	2	6	6	17	24	22
Motherwell	28	4	2	8	17	25	2	6	6	13	19	20
Falkirk	28	5	4	5	28	26	3	0	11	14	32	20
Airdrie	29	3	5	6	13	16	1	5	9	7	29	18

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: First division: Nottsborough 6, Old Fastopians 0; Old Owens 2, Mill Hill Village 2; Southgate County 2, Witan 3

BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Blackpool Mechanics 0, Salford City 4; Bradford Park Avenue 2, Blackpool Rovers 1; Eastwood Hanley 2, Bacup Borough 2; Flixton 1, Newcastle Town 1; Kidsgrove Athletic 0, St Helens 1, Maine Road (Man) 2, Skelmersdale 2, Penrith 1, Clitheroe 2.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Old Carthusians 1, Old Malvernians 0; Lancing Old Boys 3, Old Cholmeleians 3; Old Reptonians 1, Old Chigwellians 0. First division: Old Salopians 4, Old Aldenhamians 2; Old Westminsters 0, Old Witeians 5. Arthur Dunn Cup: Old Brentwoods 1, Old Wellingburians 0

SPANISH LEAGUE: Deportivo La Coruna 2, Sevilla 0.

First division

DUMBARTON (1) 1 RAITH (1) 2
Mooney 18 — Brewster 9, Dalziel 79 (pen) — 1,250
MEADOWBANK (0) 1 STIRLING (0) 1
Kerr 53 (og) — Elder 84 (og) — 305
MORTON (0) 0 DUNFERMLINE (1) 1
1,700 — Chalmers 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
		HOME					AWAY					
Raith	29	10	5	0	37	11	7	5	2	22	16	44
Kilmarnock	28	9	2	3	28	10	7	4	3	17	14	38
St Mirren	29	7	4	3	23	12	8	2	5	19	23	36
Dunfermline	28	9	2	3	23	13	7	1	6	22	15	35
Hamilton	28	8	4	2	26	13	4	4	6	19	15	32
Morton	28	7	2	6	35	20	5	4	4	19	18	30
Clydebank	28	6	5	2	24	12	3	4	8	22	32	27
Ayr	27	6	4	4	18	15	2	6	5	13	16	26
Meadowbank	29	4	4	6	14	22	4	3	8	19	33	23
Dumbarton	28	6	1	8	23	27	4	1	8	19	30	22
Stirling	27	2	3	7	8	18	2	6	7	15	20	17
Cowdenbeath	27	0	4	10	16	39	1	0	12	6	35	6

Second division

ALLOA (2) 2 QUEEN OF S (0) 2
Bennett 21, McCormick 34 — Sermanni 47, Thomson 67 (pen) — 450
BERWICK (0) 0 BRECHIN (0) 2
394 — Ross 60, 85
CLYDE (0) 0 STRANRAER (0) 0
1,050
FORFAR (2) 3 ALBION (1) 2
Sheridan 26, McCaffrey 41 (og), Winter 74 (pen) — Scott 12, 85 (pen) — 519
QUEEN'S PARK (1) 3 MONTROSE (0) 1
Rodden 24, 80, Stevenson 52 — Yates 84 — 407

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
		HOME					AWAY					
Brechin	23	9	2	1	28	11	6	4	1	17	7	36
Clyde	23	5	5	1	19	7	7	3	2	29	14	32
Stranraer	25	5	6	1	18	11	6	4	3	18	15	32
Forfar	25	8	3	2	37	21	4	4	4	13	13	31
Alloa	24	6	3	4	20	19	4	4	3	16	16	27
E Fife	24	4	3	5	22	22	6	2	4	28	17	25
Stenhsmuir	23	5	1	6	17	17	3	6	2	17	14	23
Arbroath	23	3	4	5	17	18	5	2	4	13	14	22
Queen of S	24	4	2	6	14	14	4	4	4	21	25	22
Berwick	24	4	3	5	20	21	4	1	7	17	27	20
Montrose	25	3	2	7	15	21	5	1	7	20	29	19
Queen's Park	24	4	2	6	20	22	1	3	8	12	24	15
E Stirling	23	2	3	6	15	26	3	2	7	23	36	15
Albion	24	3	4	4	15	22	1	3	9	9	26	15

FRENCH LEAGUE: Bordeaux 0, Lens 0. Nantes 0, Toulon 0; Marseilles 6, Nimes 1; St-Etienne 1, Auxerre 0; Sochaux 3, Lens 2; Valenciennes 1, Paris Saint-Germain 1. Strasbourg 2, Lyons 1; Lille 2, Toulouse 2; Montpellier 0, Monaco 0; Caen 0, Metz 1. Leading positions (after 24 matches): 1, Monaco, 34 points, 2, Marseilles, 33; 3, Paris Saint-Germain, 32.

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Atalanta 2, Juventus 1. Cagliari 0, Internazionale 0; Fiorentina 0, Lazio 2. AC Milan 4, Pescara 0; Napoli 2, Foggia 0; AS Roma 3, Genoa 0; Sampdoria 3, Ancona 1; Torino 1, Brescia 0; Udinese 1, Parma 0. Leading positions (after 19 matches): 1, AC Milan, 34, 2, Internazionale, 25; 3, Lazio, 23

DUTCH LEAGUE: RKC Waalwijk 2, Volendam 3, Ajax 6, Sparta Rotterdam 0; Feyenoord 0, FC Utrecht 0, FC Groningen 1, Twente Enschede 1; Vitesse Arnhem 6, Roda JC Kerkrade 1; Cambuur Leeuwarden 0, PSV Eindhoven 1; MVV Maastricht 1, SVV Dordrecht 0; Willem II Tilburg 2, Fortuna Sittard 0. Leading positions: 1, PSV Eindhoven, played 19, 30 points; 2, Feyenoord, 20, 29. 3, MVV Maastricht, 20, 26.

Yesterday

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division. Chorley 2, Horwich 2.

Weekend statistics

IAN WRIGHT moved two goals behind Shearer in the Premier League goalscoring table after three in his last two games. The overall leader, Whittingham, of Portsmouth, increased his tally to 32 for the season. Aston Villa maintain the best disciplinary record with 14 cautions, while Torquay went to 60 offences and head the worst teams.

GOALSCORERS

Premier League	Lge	FA	LC	Oth	Tot
Shearer (Blackbn)	16	-	6	-	22
Wright (Arsenal)	13	3	4	-	20
Quinn (Coventry)	16	-	3	-	19
Hignett (Middlsbro)	11	4	3	-	18
Saunders (Villa)	13	2	2	-	17
Chapman (Leeds)	12	1	2	2	16
Cantona (Man U)	11	-	-	5	16
Sheringham (Spurs)	10	3	3	-	16
Kiwomya (Ipswich)	9	-	6	-	15
White (Man C)	13	1	-	-	14
Deane (Shefl U)	9	3	2	-	14
Bright (Shefl W)	9	-	5	-	14
First division	Lge	FA	LC	Oth	Tot
Whittingham (P'mth)	27	-	2	3	32
Aldridge (Tnmere)	19	1	2	2	24
Blissett (Brentfd)	13	-	4	4	23
Furlong (Watford)	16	-	3	-	19
Morley (W Ham)	16	1	-	1	18
Maskell (Swindon)	16	-	1	1	18
Peacock (N'castle)	12	2	2	2	18
Kitson (Derby)	12	-	2	4	18
Second division	Lge	FA	LC	Oth	Tot
Francis (Stockport)	16	2	2	4	24
Walker (Bolton)	17	3	1	2	23
Stein (Stoke)	16	-	4	1	21
McCarthy (Bradfrd)	13	2	1	5	21
Taylor (WBA)	14	3	1	2	20
Saville (Hartlepl)	10	5	1	1	17
Third division	Lge	FA	LC	Oth	Tot
Foreman (Scarboro)	19	-	2	2	23
Griffiths (Shrewsby)	16	2	1	1	20
Bennett (Wrexham)	12	1	2	2	17
Bull (Barnet)	14	-	2	-	16
Clarke (Walsall)	14	-	1	1	16

Other goals include Autoglass Trophy, Anglo-Italian Cup, European cups and Charity Shield.

OFFENCES

FAIR PLAY	Sent off	Booked
Aston Villa	-	14
Norwich	-	16
Coventry	-	18
Scarborough	-	18
Newcastle	1	18
Peterborough	2	18
Nottm Forest	-	24
Hull	-	24
Leicester	3	21
FOUL PLAY	**Sent off**	**Booked**
Torquay	3	57
Cambridge Utd	5	51
Colchester	2	52
Hereford	6	47
Sheff Utd	3	50
Reading	3	50
Wimbledon	2	51
Chester	2	50

Offences do not include Anglo-Italian Cup matches.

ATTENDANCES

Division	Weekly total	Wkly avge	Wkly chng	91-2 chng
Prem (9)	186,643	20,738	+11.8	-4.1
Dv 1 (11)	112,768	10,252	+5.1	-2.6
Dv 2 (12)	74,628	6,219	+4.5	+14.7
Dv 3 (10)	26,517	2,652	-22.5	-22.9

Highest/lowest. Premier division: 40,463 (Liverpool v Nottm Forest), 6,704 (Wimbledon v Leeds). First division. 17,234 (Sunderland v Swindon), 4,802 (Cambridge v Tranmere). Second division. 15,391 (Stoke v Hull), 2,594 (Chester v Bradford). Third division. 3,812 (Northampton v Gillingham), 1,467 (Scarborough v Hereford)

☐ Compiled by Julian Desborough

POOLS CHECK

1-1	2-1½	3-1	4-1½	5-1½	6-1	7-1	8-1	9-1½	10-1½	11-3●	12-1½	13-1	14-1	15-1½	16-1½	17-1½	18-3●	19-1	20-1	21-3●	22-1	23-1	24-1½	25-1½	26-3●	27-3●	28-3●	29-1½
30-1	31-1	32-1½	33-1½	34-3●	35-1	36-1½	37-1	38-3●	39-3●	40-1	41-1	42-1½	43-3●	44-3●	45-1½	46-1	47-1	48-1	49-3●	50-1	51-1	52-1	53-3●	54-1	55-3●	56-1½	57-1	58-1½

FORECAST: Dividends will be low with 14 score-draws and no no-score draws. No claims required

Faldo's victory ensures further frustration for Montgomerie

FROM MEL WEBB IN SINGAPORE

NICK Faldo won. Colin Montgomerie won a lot of money. Things were as they have been in the last 12 months as Faldo beat Montgomerie into yet another second place to win the Johnnie Walker Classic at Singapore Island Country Club yesterday with a score of 269, 11 under par.

Third was Choi Sang-Ho, of Korea, five shots behind the winner, with Greg Norman and Steven Richardson a further stroke behind.

Montgomerie had spoken earlier in the week of his record last year — no wins, four seconds, four thirds and nearly £550,000 in the bank. "I've been running 98 yards and stopping," he said. "I've got to dip for the line a little earlier."

This time he kept going for the full distance; his 66 was jointly the best score of the day.

FINAL SCORES

GB and Ire unless stated
269: N Faldo, 67, 68, 66, 68. 270: C Montgomerie, 68, 67, 69, 66. 274: Choi Sang-ho (Kor), 69, 67, 71, 67. 275: G Norman (Aus), 71, 68, 68, 68, S Richardson, 70, 70, 66, 69. 276: B Ruangkit (Thai), 67, 72, 68, 69. 277: F Minoza (Phi), 70, 69, 71, 67, F Couples (US), 73, 65, 70, 69. 278: V Singh (Fiji), 72, 69, 69, 68; M A Jimenez (Sp), 69, 72, 69, 68; G Brand Jnr, 72, 67, 71, 68; E Els (SA), 71, 65, 72, 70; M McLean, 76, 69, 63, 70. 279: T Johnstone (Zim), 70, 73, 71, 65, R Allenby (Aus), 71, 70, 70, 68, W Riley (Aus), 72, 69, 68, 70, I Woosnam, 71, 69, 69, 70. 280: M Lanner (Swe), 73, 71, 68, 68, T Hamilton (US), 69, 72, 69, 70; R Davis (Aus), 70, 69, 70, 71. 281: J Hawkes (SA), 68, 71, 72, 70. 282: W Westner (SA), 71, 70, 72, 69; C Mason, 71, 74, 66, 71, D Cooper, 71, 71, 67, 73. 283: Chen Tze-ming (Tai), 74, 69, 74, 66; B Lane, 70, 69, 74, 70, P Baker, 72, 71, 70, 70, F Nobilo (NZ), 76, 69, 68, 70, I Palmer (SA), 72, 72, 69, 70; Chen Tze-chung (Tai), 68, 74, 70, 71

but in the end the three-shot cushion that Faldo carried into the final round was the decisive factor as his 68 took him to a one-shot victory.

Montgomerie collected £61,100 and Faldo £91,660. But the burly Scot would cheerfully have given up his cheque for a rare and precious victory. His regrets were tinged with admiration. "I played the best I could, and I think I would have beaten any other player," he said. "But Nick's not any other player."

He could not have summed it up better. Faldo was remorseless in his efficiency on this final day as no other golfer in the world can be. Boring? To some, it might be — he had 14 pars, three birdies and a bogey — but those who knew the game could see that at one or two key moments, in what had long since become a match-play situation, Faldo was the coolest and most controlled man on the course.

When he three-putted the 14th for a bogey, Montgomerie birdied it from 15 feet to be one behind. On the next, a Faldo par to the third Montgomerie birdie in succession put them level at ten under par. If Faldo was going to crack, as even he did in final rounds on at least three occasions last season — in France, in Ireland, in Belgium — this might be the time.

He did not, of course. Instead, it was his mere presence that surely caused his opponent to slip, bogeying the 16th when he hit his second shot into a greenside bunker, chipped out to 15 feet and missed by a foot.

It was there that the tournament was effectively won and lost. No matter that Faldo had birdied the 8th and the 13th. No matter that Montgomerie had made a magnificent start with a birdie on the 1st hole, and held on with some style thereafter. They were just the preliminary skirmishes. There were three holes to play, and Faldo had all but won.

Montgomerie had just one more chance, on the long 18th, which he had not birdied once in three rounds. He knew it was a good birdie chance for Faldo, so had to go boldly for an eagle to get into a play-off.

It almost worked. A natural fader of the ball, this time he contrived to change the shape of the shot to a draw-hook around some trees with his four-iron. The ball rolled to a stop 40 feet from the flag and the eagle putt was hit perfectly for strength, but was six inches wide.

It was not enough. Faldo drove into light rough, played the half-hit five-iron that he has perfected in the last 12 months, hit a flawless, full sand-wedge to 15 feet and sank the birdie putt. He thought it was not going in, he was doing the darn-it, missed-it walk after the ball, but the putt dropped, as he said, "by the skin of its balata".

"There's the old Irish joke about 99 per cent of putts left short not going in," he said. "Mine was the hundredth. I was in trouble for a bit, but I managed to weasel my way out of it." And Colin Montgomerie was once again left the bulkiest bridesmaid on the European Tour.

DAVID CANNON

Rare mistake: Faldo looks anxious as a missed putt means a bogey at the 14th

ATHLETICS

Britain picks strong cross country teams for Spain

BY DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

FEW cars go 9,000 miles without a running repair, and there is small chance that the British senior cross country teams, who will cover about that distance between them in training between now and the world championships, will be spared new parts (David Powell writes). But the model, as seen now, looks like good British workmanship, albeit with American and French influence.

A women's team led by Liz McColgan and Paula Radcliffe, and a men's which includes five of the six who won bronze medals last year, augurs well for the championships in Amorebieta, Spain, on March 28. One or two changes brought on by injuries are inevitable, but more would spoil two good teams, named on Saturday evening after the afternoon trials.

The contrast is in the ages, with half the senior women almost young enough to be daughters of half the men. In the week that Britain picked Steve Jones, 37, for the world championship marathon, Dave Clarke secured a championship berth at 35. Eamonn Martin, 34, is not far behind Clarke in age, as was the case in distance at Corby on Saturday, when they finished second and third behind Steve Tunstall.

Tunstall ran for France at the 1988 world championships while in the Foreign Legion. Saturday's other senior winner, Suzanne Rigg, was at the time an American in Iowa and, had events taken their normal course, she would not be eligible for Britain now. But Zola Budd got a fast passport, so why shouldn't she?

Helped by her MP, Rigg's was hurried through in five months, instead of five years as she was first advised. Married to a Briton, she promises to stay and not, like Budd, rush home. If not for Britain, where she has lived for four years, she would not be running.

"Maybe I would be jogging, but I would not be competing," Rigg said. "I wouldn't have got the training or competition I needed."

On Saturday, she did not get the competition she wanted. Radcliffe declared herself fit after a run over the course on Friday, but, back there on Saturday, a doctor advised her against participating after diagnosing a chest infection. "I wish she had been able to run because it would have been a good race," Rigg said.

The British women's team is capable of winning in Spain; the men might be second behind Kenya.

HOCKEY

Havant recovery fails as Hill stokes Firebrands

ROBERT Hill converted two short corners for Firebrands, who defeated Havant, the Pizza Express National League champions, 4-2 at Bristol yesterday. Another short corner was converted by Purchase and Mathews added the fourth goal from open play. Havant's opening goal, in the 23rd minute by David Roberts from a short corner, was followed by another from open play by Pattison, but by that time Firebrands were 3-2 ahead (Sydney Friskin writes).

Havant's defeat enabled **Old Loughtonians** to step into third place on goal difference, Nick Thompson scoring three goals in a 4-1 win over **Trojans** to take his total to 19 for the season. However, Robert Thompson finished the day on equal terms having scored one of **Hounslow's** goals in a 3-0 win over **Welton**. Hacker, from a penalty stroke, and Rees added to the score.

Southgate continued to challenge Hounslow for the title with an exciting 3-2 victory over **Slough**. **St Albans** beat **Teddington** 1-0.

On Saturday, Hounslow, the holders, Teddington and **East Grinstead** qualified for the semi-finals of the Royal Bank of Scotland Cup.

IN BRIEF

Smith and Hall move into finals

Darren Hall, attempting a record sixth victory, reached the men's singles final for the eighth successive year at the Bulgarian Vintners English national badminton championships at the Norwich Sports Village yesterday.

Hall, 27, beat Peter Smith 15-10, 15-5 in a one-sided semi-final and will play Anders Nielsen, the defending champion, in the final.

Fiona Smith, the six-times champion, qualified for the women's singles final, where she will meet Su Louis Lane.

Oriental flavour

The Open Golf Championship is to break new ground this year by holding a qualifying tournament in Japan.

It is being introduced on a trial basis in recognition of the problems for players who, because of commitments to the Asian and Japanese tours, are unable to take part in qualifying in Britain.

Future assured

Rugby union: Provincial Insurance has decided not to renew its three-year sponsorship of the *junior clubs'* knockout cup. Dudley Wood, the secretary of the Rugby Football Union, said: "We very much regret the loss, but the competition [involving 512 clubs] is now well established and we hope to announce details of a new sponsorship in the not-too-distant future."

Navratilova tops

Tennis: Martina Navratilova won the 162nd singles title of her career — a record — by beating Larisa Savchenko-Neiland, of Latvia, 6-2, 6-2 in the final of the Toray Pan Pacific Open in Yokohama, Japan, yesterday.

Delayed by rain

Skiing: Driving rain forced the men's combined slalom and women's giant slalom to be called off for the second day running at the Alpine world championships in Morioka, Japan, yesterday.

Thorne through

Snooker: Aided by two in-offs, Willie Thorne beat Chris Small 5-3 in the first round of the Benson and Hedges Masters at Wembley Conference Centre yesterday.

FOR THE RECORD

RUGBY UNION

Five nations' championship
FRANCE 11 SCOTLAND 3
France: Try: Lacroix. Pens: Camberabero (2). Scotland: Pen: Hastings.
WALES 10 ENGLAND 9
Wales: Try: Evans. Con: Jenkins. Pen: Jenkins. England: Pens: Webb (2). Dropped goal: Guscott.

Representative match
Holland 12 Wales B 57

Courage Clubs Championship
Fourth division north
Hereford 38 Towcestrians 10

Insurance Corporation
All-Ireland League
First division
Constitution 11 St Mary's Col 12
Greystones 13 Ballymena 6
Shannon 6 Old Wesley 7
Y Munster 13 Garryowen 8

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
St Mary's Col	7	5	1	1	156	129	11
Young Munster	7	5	1	1	100	87	11
Constitution	7	5	0	2	128	127	10
Greystones	7	4	1	2	119	138	9
Old Wesley	7	3	0	4	91	113	6
Dungannon	7	3	0	4	132	156	6
Ballymena	7	2	0	5	74	77	4
Garryowen	7	2	0	5	121	130	4
Shannon	6	0	1	5	42	53	1

Second division
Bangor 25 Lansdowne 32
Clontarf 12 Old Crescent 18
Dolphin 21 Galwegians 8
Instonians 13 Terenure 11
Wanderers 18 Blackrock Col 32

Club matches
Blackheath 17 Harlequins 22
Broughton Park 35 Furness 3
Cambridge Univ 9 Askeans 32
Jed-Forest 35 Boroughmuir 45
Leeds 24 Durham 8
Leicester 52 Rosslyn Pk 10
Liverpool St H 6 Newcastle G 47
L Irish 39 Clifton 14
L Scottish 28 Hawick 30
Morley 19 Aspatria 17
Orrell 20 Bedford 3
Sheffield 21 Rotherham 13
Vale of Lune 5 Sale 63
Wakefield 26 Bradford 13
Waterloo 24 Coventry 18
W Hartlepool 29 Fylde 15
W of Scotland 14 Heriots FP 22
Yesterday
Met Police 0 Saracens 42

LONDON AND SOUTH EAST: Courage Clubs Championship: Third division north west: Kingsburians 10, Letchworth 19. CLOB Merit Table: Old Millhillians 23, Old Cranleighans 3. Fullers Brewery Herts Merit Table: Hemel Hempstead 10, Old Elizabethans 18. Fullers Brewery Middlesex Merit Table: Staines 55, Sudbury Court 3.
SOUTH-WEST: Bass Cornwall Cup: Semi-final: St Ives 6, Penryn 0. Bristol Combination Plate: Bristol Telephones 13, St Bernadette's Old Boys 35.
SCOTLAND: Alloa Brewery Cup: First round: Aberdeen GSFP 14, Aberdeenshire 13. Representative match: Lanarkshire 52, Argyll and Bute 14.
MIDLANDS: Courage Clubs Championship: Staffs and Warwicks: Fourth division: Ford Leamington 5, Burntwood 35.
NORTH: Cumberland Cup: Moresby 8, Cockermouth 17; Netherhall 30, Upper Eden 3. Yorkshire Shield: Second round: Old Modernians 15, Wath 17. Quarter-finals: Cleckheaton 25, Northallerton 10; Wheatley Hills 16, Doncaster 21, Yarnbury 13, Whitby 10.
Late results on Friday
REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: Welsh Students 21, English Students 13 (in Llanelli). France Under-21 67, Scotland Under-21 3 (in Dijon).

ATHLETICS

CORBY: UK world cross-country trial: Men (12.5km): 1, S Tunstall (Lancs), 36min 33sec; 2, D Clarke (Surrey), 36.44; 3, E Martin (Essex), 36.55; 4, A Bristow (Sussex), 37.08. Women (5.5km): 1, S Rigg (Cheshire), 18.39; 2, A Wyeth (Middx), 18.51; 3, V McPherson (Scot), 18.54; 4, G Stacey (Kent), 19.03. Junior man (10km): C Stephenson (S Glam), 32.55. Junior women (4.5km): S Murphy (Middx), 16.40.
GLASGOW: Scottish indoor championships: Men: 60m: E Bunney (Edinburgh Southern), 6.78sec; 3,000m: R Fitzsimmons (Kilbarchan), 8min 13.16sec; Triple jump: M McDonald (Queen's Univ, Belfast), 14.86m; Shot: S Whyte (Luton), 16.69m. Women: 60m: M Richardson (Windsor, Slough and Eton), 7.54; Long jump: K Hambrook (Ashford), 5.88m. High jump: R Pinkerton (City of Glasgow), 1.80m.
NEW YORK: Millrose Games (US unless stated). Men: 60m: M Green, 6.79; 400m: B Reynolds, 47.16; 500m: A Valmon, 1min 3.34sec; 800m: F Williams (Can), 1:50.31; Mile: 1, N Morceli (Alg), 3:55.06; 2, M O'Sullivan (Ire), 3:55.36. Masters' mile: E Coghlan (Ire), 4:05.95; 3,000m: 1, J Falcon, 7.55.94; 3, F O'Mara (Ire), 7.57.96; 60m hurdles: G Foster, 7.81; Mile walk: A James, 5min 50.44sec; Shot: C J Hunter, 19.50m; High jump: T Barton, 2.25m; Pole vault: B Deering, 5.50m. Women: 60m hurdles: L Martin-Floreal, 8.15; 60m: G Devers, 7.31; 400m: J Miles, 53.03; 800m: M Mutola (Moz), 2:02.83. Mile: S Steely, 4:32.27; High jump: Y Henry, 1.85m; Shot: C Price, 17.37m.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Bitter Championship
First division
CASTLEFORD 14 SHEFFIELD 8
Castleford: Tries: Ford, Middleton, Steadman. Goal: Crooks. Sheffield: Try: Jack. Goals: Mycoe 2. Att: 4,655.
HALIFAX 36 SALFORD 14
Halifax: Tries: Bailey (2), Preston (2), Hamson, Southernwood. Goals: Bishop (6). Salford: Tries: Burgess, Evans, Lee. Goal: Birkett. Att: 5,851.
HULL KR 16 LEEDS 18
Hull KR: Tries: Chamberlain (2), Bibby. Goals: Chatfield (2). Leeds: Tries: Dixon, Iro, Stephens. Goals: Irving (2), Gregory. Att: 5,287.
LEIGH 17 WAKEFIELD 10
Leigh: Tries: Donohue, D Platt, D Ruane. Goals: D Platt (2). Dropped goal: A Ruane. Wakefield: Tries: M Conway, Round. Goal: M Conway. Att: 2,451.
WIDNES 22 HULL 4
Widnes: Tries: Currier, Davies, Finalto, Sarsfield. Goals: Davies (3). Hull: Try: L Jackson. Att: 4,592.
WIGAN 34 BRADFORD 16
Wigan: Tries: Robinson (2), Betts, Edwards, Lydon, Panapa. Goals: Botica (5). Bradford: Tries: McGowan, Simpson, Watson. Goals: Hobbs (2). Att: 12,800.
Late result on Friday
STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: St Helens 12, Warrington 4

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
St Helens	17	14	0	3	421	201	28
Wigan	15	12	0	3	402	200	24
Castleford	16	9	1	6	344	224	19
Leeds	17	9	1	7	405	316	19
Widnes	16	9	0	7	340	240	18
Bradford	15	9	0	6	336	266	18
Halifax	16	9	0	7	329	238	18
Hull	18	8	0	10	264	321	16
Sheffield	17	8	0	9	330	392	16
Warrington	18	7	1	10	296	372	15
Wakefield	19	7	1	11	294	368	15
Salford	18	6	0	12	295	499	12
Leigh	19	5	2	12	255	466	12
Hull KR	19	5	0	14	227	435	10

Second division
Bramley 10 Huddersfield 27
Carlisle 14 London Crus 28
Featherstone 52 Oldham 14
Rochdale 12 Swinton 32

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Featherstone	18	16	0	2	564	218	32
Oldham	19	15	0	4	515	316	30
Rochdale	18	9	0	9	366	378	18
Huddersfield	17	9	0	8	334	364	18
London Crus	18	7	1	10	320	336	15
Bramley	19	6	1	12	267	420	13
Carlisle	17	4	2	11	281	407	10
Swinton	18	4	0	14	225	433	8

Third division
Blackpool 23 Highfield 24
Chorley 22 Barrow 20
Dewsbury 2 Workington 15
Hunslet 10 Doncaster 26
Keighley 22 Ryedale York 15
Whitehaven 56 Nottingham 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dewsbury	17	14	0	3	475	174	28
Workington	16	12	0	4	528	155	24
Ryedale York	17	12	0	5	558	236	24
Keighley	15	12	0	3	461	160	24
Whitehaven	16	11	0	5	430	213	22
Batley	15	11	0	4	274	147	22
Doncaster	17	10	0	7	382	265	20
Hunslet	15	10	0	5	319	271	20
Blackpool	15	4	0	11	239	391	8
Barrow	18	3	0	15	302	475	6
Chorley	18	3	0	15	208	590	6
Highfield	13	1	0	12	147	559	2
Nottingham	16	1	0	15	102	769	2

SYDNEY: World sevens tournament: Quarter-finals: Canterbury 20, Illawarra 10; Manly 18, St George 10; Easts 26, Port Moresby 10; Western Samoa 24, Canberra 16. Semi-finals: Manly 22, Canterbury 16, Easts 32, Western Samoa 14. Final: Easts 18, Manly 12. Trophy final (pool runners-up): Cronulla 20, Parramatta 14. Plate final (pool third place): Fiji 28, Wests 24 (aet).

BADMINTON

NORWICH: Bulgarian Vintners English national championships: Men's singles: Quarter-finals: P Knowles (Kent) bt A Bush (Wilts), 15-2, 15-5; A Nielsen (Surrey) bt S Isaac (Sussex), 15-5, 15-11; D Hall (Essex) bt N Panesar (Yorks), 13-18, 15-1, 15-5; P Smith (Surrey) bt S Butler (Warwicks), 8-15, 15-6, 15-11. Semi-finals: Hall bt Smith, 15-10, 15-5; Nielsen bt Knowles, 5-15, 15-13, 15-11. Women's singles: Quarter-finals: J Mann (Worcs) bt T Hallam (Staffs), 11-7, 11-6; S Louis Lane (Devon) bt T Groves (Sussex), 11-8, 11-3; T Dineen (Essex) bt J Wilmott (Yorks), 11-2, 11-7; F Smith (Surrey) bt J Davies (Lincs), 11-2, 11-1. Semi-finals: Louis Lane bt Mann, 11-6, 11-2, Smith bt Dineen, 11-2, 11-4. Men's doubles: Semi-finals: S Archer (Worcs) and N Ponting (Herts) bt J Anderson and I Pearson (Essex), 15-5, 15-5; J Robertson (Northants) and D Wright (Yorks) bt A Fairhurst and C Hunt (Lancs), 11-15, 15-12, 15-7. Women's doubles: Semi-finals: G Clark (Surrey) and G Gowers (Herts) bt J Davies (Lincs) and T Groves (Sussex), 15-7, 15-6; J Bradbury (Oxon) and S Sankey (Lancs) bt K Chapman and J Wright (Sussex), 15-2, 15-9. *Mixed doubles*: Semi-finals: Ponting and Clark bt Archer and Davies, 15-8, 15-10, C Hunt (Lancs) and J Wright (Sussex) bt D Wright (Yorks) and S Sankey (Lancs), 15-1, 15-10.

BASKETBALL

CARLSBERG LEAGUE: Men: First division: Cheshire Jets 58 (Thomas 24, Herring 12), Thames Valley Tigers 79 (L James 30, Lloyd 21). Derby Bucks 72 (Hood 23, Mitchell 18), Stentolon Worthing Bears 98 (Irish 30, Hubbard 22); Guildford Kings 101 (Gordon 27, Duncan 24), Birmingham Bullets 79 (Rucker 27, Singleton 14). London Towers 93 (R Scantlebury 18, P Scantlebury 14), Sunderland Saints 66 (Nottage 20, N Hopper 14). Oldham Celtics 103 (Henderson 31, Fite 30), Leicester City Riders 81 (Treasvant 29, Waldron 14). Second division: Barnsley General 65, Coventry Flyers 73; Lewisham Lightning 85, Bury Lobos 113. Middlesborough Mohawks 100, Plymouth Raiders 94. Women: First division: Cheshire Ladies 50, Thames Valley Ladies 76; London Central YMCA 41, Avester Sheffield Hatters 65. Second division: Camberley Golden Eagles 60, Houghton Regis Raiders 61; Sunderland 45, South Tyneside 68.
MEN'S NATIONAL TROPHY: Semi-final: Ware Rebels 71, John Carr Doncaster Panthers 96.
SCOTTISH CHAIRMAN'S CUP: Men: Quarter-final: Troon 74, Renfrew 66.
SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Women: First division: Dundee 52, City of Edinburgh 63.
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Friday: Boston Celtics 105 Philadelphia 76ers 93. Charlotte Hornets 118 Milwaukee Bucks 111. Cleveland Cavaliers 109 Detroit Pistons 89. Washington Bullets 138 Golden State Warriors 111. New York Knicks 106 Miami Heat 105. Dallas Mavericks 105 Indiana Pacers 104. Minnesota Timberwolves 112 Houston Rockets 105; Denver Nuggets 116, Sacramento Kings 103; Phoenix Suns 132, Los Angeles Lakers 104. Orlando Magic 114, Portland Trail Blazers 106. Saturday: Cleveland Cavaliers 120, Atlanta Hawks 109; Seattle SuperSonics 120, Washington Bullets 92; San Antonio Spurs 104, Minnesota Timberwolves 95; Denver Nuggets 111, Dallas Mavericks 93; Los Angeles Clippers 119, Sacramento Kings 110.

BOBSLEIGHING

IGLS, Austria: World championships: Two-man: Final placings: 1, Germany II (C Langen, P Jochel), 3min 30.91sec; 2, Switzerland I, 3:31.54; 3, Germany I, 3:31.92. 13, Britain I (S Olsson, D Ward), 3.33.46.

BOWLS

NOTTINGHAM: Champion of Champions tournament: Quarter-finals: J Newson (Peterborough) bt A Hollis (Charnwood), 21-14; I Wones (North Walsham) bt M Biggs (Thamesdown), 21-19, M Tomberry (Dorchester) bt G Grace (Handy Cross), 21-11; P Bennett (Bodmin) bt A Cawdell (Herts, Watford), 21-14. Semi-finals: Newson bt Bennett, 21-17, Wones bt Tomberry, 21-13. Final: Newson bt Wones 21-11. National under-25 singles championship: Quarter-finals: J Norris (Scunthorpe) bt S Reading (Barking), 21-20, N Chandler (Cotswold) bt G Smith (Spalding), 21-16; N Skidmore (Rugby Thornfield) bt M Short (Dorchester), 21-10; R Newman (Whiteknights) bt R Moses (Preston), 21-2. Semi-finals: Norris bt Chandler, 21-18; Skidmore bt Newman, 21-20. Final: Skidmore bt Norris 21-20.
PERTH: Scottish women's indoor championships: Singles: Semi-finals: C McIntosh (Stonehaven) 21, J Woodley (West of Scotland) 13; K Adams (Auchinleck) 21, A Ross (Bainfield) 17. Final: McIntosh 21, Adams 13. Pairs: Semi-finals: Edinburgh (A Robinson, S Smeal) 24, Dyce (E Nicol, K Burnie) 22; Falkirk (J Brooksby, R Canavan) 28, Paisley (M Gray, S Ferguson) 19. Final: Edinburgh 22, Falkirk 17. Triples: Semi-finals: Teviotdale (J Gibson, S McCrone, J Foster) 24, Prestwick (S Gourlay, R Bell, N Stewart) 6; Edinburgh (J McFarlane, J Montieth, S Sparks) 20, Bainfield (J Hope, A Watson, S Connor) 8. Final: Teviotdale 19, Edinburgh 6. Fours: Semi-finals: Lothian (J Miller, S McLeish, A Melrose, J Contan) 33, Alloa (M McAuley, S Greenlees, M Young, J Bennett) 11; Blantyre (B Neil, J Hart, B Forsyth, M Glen) 21, Galleon (J McCreath, N Turner, A Gilmour, D Jeffrey) 20. Final: Midlothian 28, Blantyre 7

BOXING

NEW YORK: WBA and IBF world heavyweight championship: Riddick Bowe (US, holder) bt Michael Dokes (US), rsc 1st rnd.
PARIS: European welterweight championship: Gary Jacobs (Scot) bt Ludovic Proto (Fr), ret 9th rd.
CARDIFF: Commonwealth welterweight championship: Eamonn Loughran (Ballymena) bt Michael Benjamin (Guyana), rsc 6th rnd. Super-middleweight (8 rnds): Steve Collins (Dublin) bt Johnny Melfah (Gloucs), rsc 3rd.

CRICKET

TOUR MATCH: Launceston: Tasmania 224-3 (R Ponting 59 not out, J Cox 57); England A 200 (G P Thorpe 78, D G Cork 54). Tasmania won A by 24 runs.
DELHI: Second Youth Test: England Under-19 347 and 162-5 (R Cunliffe 78 not out); India Under-19 421-9 dec (M Broadhurst 3-72). Match drawn.
SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Sydney: Western Australia 467 and 168 (G Matthews 8-52); New South Wales 452 and 186-3. New South Wales won by 7 wickets. Melbourne: Victoria 406-8 dec and 201-7 dec; South Australia 278-7 dec and 306-8 (G Blewett 69, J Brayshaw 65, J Siddons 58). Match drawn. Leading positions: 1, New South Wales, played 7, 20pts; 2, Queensland, 7, 18; 3, Western Australia, 7, 15.
RED STRIPE CUP: Port of Spain: Leeward Islands 285 and 16-1; Trinidad and Tobago 200 (W Phillip 5-54). Kingston: Barbados 456-9 dec (R Holder 162 not out, P Wallace 96, H Waldron 62); Jamaica 99-3. Georgetown: Windward Islands 128; Guyana 392-4 (C Lambert 205 not out, S Dhaniram 74).

CYCLING

TIME-TRIAL: Kettering Friendly hilly (13.2 miles): 1, G Butler (RT Italia), 29min 59sec; 2, M Hurst (Coventry Olympic), 30.53; 3, A Harrison (Invicta RC), 31.19.

FOOTBALL

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: United States 1, Romania 1 (in Santa Barbara, California).
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Adidas Under-19 Trophy: Cumbria 1, Durham 3. Adidas Under-15 Trophy: Avon 4, Gloucestershire 0; Cumbria 1, Durham 5; Essex 3, Sussex 1. Diemik Trophy: The Grange, Christchurch 1, Dr Challoner's, Amersham 2; Giles County, Boston 2, Ullswater HS 1; Woodlands, Coventry 2, Bromsgrove 2. Gillis Shield: Hastings 1, Brighton 4. Worrall Shield: East Cornwall 2, Exeter 6.

GOLF

PEBBLE BEACH *California: National pro-am*: Third round (US unless stated). 205: B Ogle (Aus), 68, 68, 69. 207: B R Brown, 70, 68, 69. 208: D Forsman, 73, 71, 64; G Morgan, 69, 70, 69; T Dodds (Nam), 70, 68, 70. 209: D Frost (SA), 66, 72, 71; J Flannery, 70, 69, 70. 210: M Brooks, 67, 70, 73; F Funk, 69, 69, 72; L Janzen, 71, 67, 72.
LAKE WORTH, Florida: Women's tournament: Second round (US unless stated): 137: J Wyatt (Can), 66, 71. 138: J Carner, 66, 72. 139: A Ritzman 72, 67; H Alfredsson (Swe), 68, 71; B Burton, 66, 73; T Green, 70, 69. 140: L Neumann (Swe) 69, 71; M McGann, 72, 68; K Robbins, 70, 70; M Figueras, Dotti (Sp), 69, 71. British scores: 145: L Davies, 76, 69. 147: C Pierce; 73, 74. 153: P Wright; 78, 75.
KENYA: Open championship: 276: C Maltman (Scot); P Harrison (Eng); D Westermark (Swe). Maltman won play-off.
SAN LORENZO, Algarve: Longshot tournament: Final scores: 281: M Studds (Formby). 284: P Mitchell (London). 295: P Bradley (Billingham). 297: C Giddins (Cowdray Park). 298: N Brown (Mid Herts).

HOCKEY

MEN'S INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Egypt 3, Scotland 5 (in Cairo).
ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND CUP: Quarter-finals: Hamstead and Westminster 0, East Grinstead 1; Guildford 1, Teddington 1 (Teddington won 4-2 on penalty strokes); Cannock 1, Hounslow 2. Postponed: Reading v Beeston.
PIZZA EXPRESS NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Canterbury 2, Cannock 1; East Grinstead 1, Bournville 2; Firebrands 4, Havant 2; Hounslow 3, Welton 0; Old Loughtonians 4, Trojans 1; Slough 2, Southgate 3; Stourport 2, Neston 1; Surbiton 2, Bromley 3; Teddington 0, St Albans 1. Second division: Barford Tigers 1, Cambridge City 1; Beeston 2, Richmond 1; Brean 0, Cheltenham 1; Doncaster 2, Brooklands 5; Guildford 2, Harborne 1; Harleston Magpies 1, Chelmsford 2; Isca 0, Reading 1; Lyons 1, Old Kingstonians 0; Warrington 0, Indian Gymkhana 5.
PERONI SOUTH LEAGUE: Premier League: Division A: Eastcote 3, Ramgarhia 2. Division B: Beckenham 0, Oxford University 6; Gore Court 2, Purley 0; Marden Russets 7 Old Williamsonians 1. Regionals: Hampshire/Surrey: Basingstoke 2, Old Edwardians 0; Old Walcountians 4, Barnes 0; Oxshott 0, Metropolitan Police 1; Pirelli 1, Oxted 2. Kent/Sussex: Brighton 2, Eastbourne 0; Gravesend 0, Old Holcombeians 0; Greenwich 0, Rochester and Gillingham 0; Lewes 3, Midland Bank 0.
SUN LIFE WEST LEAGUE: Premier division: Clevedon 0, Gloucester 7; Plymouth 3, East Devon 2; Yeovil 2, Marlborough 4.
NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Bishop's Stortford 5, Bury St Edmunds 2; Cambridge University 1, Bluharts 1; Colchester 2, Stevenage 1; Crostyx 3, Broxbourne 0; Ipswich 7 Ford 0; Luton 4, Wisbech 1; Peterborough T 0, Dereham 2; West Herts 0, Norwich City 4.
ERNST AND YOUNG MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bridgnorth 1, Belper 2; Coventry and North Warwickshire 1, Worcester Norton 1; Hampton in Arden 0, Edgbaston 1; Khalsa 1, Leicester Westleigh 1; Olton and West Warwickshire 4, Derby 1.
ERNST AND YOUNG NORTH PREMIER LEAGUE: First division: Alderley Edge 2, Norton 2; Formby 5, Durham University 0; Timperley 2, Hightown-Northern 0; Wakefield 2, Sheffield 0; York 2, Ben Rhydding 2.
LACE MAWER NORTH-WEST LEAGUE: First division: Bebington 2, Prescot 3; Cheetham Hill 1, Manchester 1; Chester 3, Northop Hall 4; Macclesfield 4, Deeside Ramblers 1; Rossendale 0, Oxton 4; St Helens 0, Manchester YMCA 0; West Derby 0, Bramhall 3; Winnington Park 3, St Anne's 1.
NORTH-EAST LEAGUE: First division: Billingham 0, Carlisle 0; Durham University II 2, Norton II 0; Morpeth 0, Tynedale 3; Newcastle University 5, Redcar 0; Whitehaven 1, Tynemouth 4.
WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: England 5, Ireland 0; England 3, Ireland 0 (at Bisham).
WOMEN'S CLUB MATCHES: Aldridge 3, Olton WW 1; Anchorians 0, Canterbury 3; Bexleyheath 0, Bishop Stortford 0; Bournemouth 0, Woking 4; Bracknell 1, Chelmsford 2; Cambridge City 1, St Albans 0; Clacton 3, Chelmsford A 1; Clifton II 4, Swindon 0; Crimson Ramblers 0, Pickwick 0; Ealing 2, Trojans 0; Exmouth 1, Cheltenham 0; Harborne 0, Moseley 0; Havering 0, Old Loughtonians 2; Ipswich 6, Harleston Magpies 0, Leicester 4, Blueharts 1; Liverpool 0, Bradford 4; Redbridge 1, Broxbourne 3; Redland 7, Weston 1; Sherwood 0, Tamworth 1, Spondon 0, Loughborough L 0; Springfields 0, Poynton 1; Stourport 0, Gloucester 2; Wimbledon 4, Dulwich 0; Yate 4, Exeter 0.

ICE HOCKEY

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Premier division: Billingham Bombers 17, Whitley Warriors 9; Cardiff Devils 7, Murrayfield Racers 5, Fife Flyers 3, Humberside Seahawks 5; Nottingham Panthers 7, Durham Wasps 4. First division: Lee Valley Lions 8, Basingstoke Beavers 23; Milton Keynes Kings 7, Swindon Wildcats 7; Slough Jets 12, Telford Tigers 7.
NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): All-Star game: Wales Conference 16, Campbell Conference 6.

NETBALL

ENGLISH COUNTIES LEAGUE: Hampshire North 51, Surrey 58; Essex Met 60, Hertfordshire 37; Birmingham 53, Bedfordshire 39; Kent 40, Middlesex 45.

ROWING

HAMPTON SCHOOLS HEAD: 1, Kingston Grammar, 7min 38sec; 2, Abingdon, 7:46; 3, Hampton, 7:47. Division winners: Eights: Second eights: Hampton, 7:58. Junior 16: Winchester, 8.15. Junior 15: Westminster, 8:24. Junior 14: Latymer, 9:35. Women's junior: Lady Eleanor Holles, 8:34. Coxed fours: Junior: Forest/Lea, 8:40. Junior 16: KCS Wimbledon, 9:00. Women's junior: Lady Eleanor Holles, 9:58. Quadruple sculls: Junior: Abingdon, 8:16. Junior 16: Emanuel, 8:46. Women's junior: Kingston, 9:32. Women's junior 16: Henley, 9:16.

SNOOKER

WEMBLEY: Benson and Hedges Masters: First round: W Thorne (Eng) bt C Small (Scot), 5-3.
SALISBURY: European league: S Davis (Eng) bt J White (Eng), 5-3.

SPEED SKATING

BERLIN: Women's world championship: Overall: 1, G Niemann (Ger), 172.441pts; 2, E Hunyady (Austria), 174.113; 3, H Warnicke (Ger), 174.911.

SQUASH

NEWPORT, Rhode Island: Women's open championship: Quarter-finals: H Wallace (Can) bt T Myllyniemi (Fin), 9-1, 9-7, 10-8, S Schone (Ger) bt M Houlsma (Holl), 9-1, 9-4, 10-8; S Horner (Eng) bt P Beams (NZ), 9-1, 9-2, 9-2; L Opie (Eng) bt B Hoogendoorn (Holl), 9-2, 3-9, 7-9, 9-6, 9-0. Semi-finals: Horner bt Schone, 10-8, 2-9, 9-3, 9-2; Wallace bt Opie, 9-5, 9-6, 9-1.

SWIMMING

PARIS: World Cup: Third round: Saturday: Men: 100m freestyle: 1, M Foster (Eng), 48.60sec; 2, C Kalfayan (Fr), 49.58; 3, P Khnykin (Ukr), 49.68. 400m freestyle: 1, A Kasvio (Fin), 3:45.83; 2, J Hoffman (Ger), 3:47.75; 3, S Zesner (Ger), 3:47.87. 100m backstroke: 1, F Schott (Fr), 55.18; 2, M Harris (Eng), 55.30; 3, L Kalenka (Ger), 55.80; equal 5, A Ruckwood (Eng), 55.87. 50m breaststroke: 1, S Mull (Fr), 28.80; 2, P Rogers (Aus), 28.90, 3, D Petrov (Bul), 28.92. 200m breaststroke: 1, S Vossart (Fr), 2:11.13; 2, P Rogers (Aus), 2:11.19; 3, B Mork (Nor), 2:11.32. 50m butterfly: 1, M Foster (Eng), 24.07; 2, J Karlsson (Swe), 24.13; 3, B Gutzeit (Fr), 24.49. 200m butterfly: 1, D Loader (NZ), 1:54.58 (world record); 2, F Esposito (Fr), 1:55.16, 3, V Hanski (Fin), 1:57.24; 8, J Hickman (Eng), 2:03.78. 100m medley: 1, J Sievinen (Fin), 54.57; 2, I Sei (Est), 56.31; 3, J Hladky (Ger), 56.92. 400m medley: 1, J Sievinen (Fin), 4:10.14; 2, C myden (Can), 4:18.12; 3, T Iringasa (Japan), 4:21.07. Women: 50m freestyle: 1, J Blaise (Fr), 25.95; 2, S Voelker (Ger), 26.17; 3, C Plewinski (Fr), 26.23. 200m freestyle: 1, S O'Neill (Aus), 1:58.84; 2, Y Kokawa (Japan), 1:59.96; 3, I Dalby (Nor), 2:01.13. 1km: 1, O Splichalova (Cz), 10:44.79, equal 2, A Astruc (Fr), N Dryden (Can), 10:51.28. 50m backstroke: 1, S Völker (Ger), 28.71; 2, Y Kokawa (Japan), 29.34; 3, N Inada (Japan), 29.55; 5, K Osher (Eng), 29.98. 200m backstroke: 1, L Vigarini (It), 2:10.80; 2, F Salvalajo (It), 2:13.47, 3, A Barros (Por), 2:13.87, 5, K Osher (Eng), 2:14.89. 100m breaststroke: 1, S Riley (Aus), 1:08.84; 2, K Rake (Eng), 1:09.47, 3, E Austevoll (Nor), 1:10.29. 100m butterfly: 1, S O'Neill (Aus), 1:00.77; 2, C Jeanson (Fr), 1:01.25, 3, B Ustrowski (Ger), 1:01.42. 200m medley: 1, H Hiranaka (Japan), 2:15.27, 2, F Kuroton (Japan), 2:15.35; 3, J Malar (Can), 2:17.34; 8, V Horner (Eng), 2:20.96.
UNIVERSITY MATCH: Men: Oxford bt Cambridge, 47-43. Women: Cambridge bt Oxford, 81-29. Water polo: Men: Cambridge 17, Oxford 12. Women: Cambridge 14, Oxford 3.

TENNIS

NEWCASTLE: *LTA women's satellite tournament*: Finals: Singles: G Coorengel (Holl) bt L Jelfs (Oxon), 6-1, 6-2.
MARSEILLES: Men's tournament: Quarter-finals: J Hlasek (Switz) bt S Bruguera (Sp), 7-6, 6-7, 6-1. Semi-finals: J Siemerink (Holl) bt H Holm (Swe), 7-6, 7-6; M Rosset (Switz) bt Hlasek, 6-2, 6-4. Final: Rosset bt Siemerink, 6-2, 7-6.
SAN FRANCISCO: Men's tournament (US unless stated): Quarter-finals: A Agassi bt M Ondruska (SA), 6-0, 6-4; J Connors bt C Adams, 6-3, 4-6, 6-4, B Gilbert bt R Reneberg, 5-7, 7-6, 6-2; J Tarango (US) bt J Oncins (Br), 6-3, 6-0. Semi-finals: Agassi bt Tarango, 6-3, 6-3; Gilbert bt Connors, 6-1, 1-4, ret
YOKOHAMA: Women's tournament: Semi-finals: M Navratilova (US) bt S Graf (Ger), 4-6, 6-3, 6-3; L Savchenko-Neiland (Lat) bt J Novotna (Cz), 7-5, 6-3. Final: Navratilova (US) bt Savchenko-Neiland, 6-2, 6-2.
DUBAI: Men's tournament: Quarter-finals: K Novacek (Cz) bt A Cherkasov (Rus), 6-2, 5-7, 7-5; T Muster (Austria) bt C Dosedel (Cz), 6-0, 6-3; F Santoro (Fr) bt A Volkov (Russ), 2-6, 6-4, 6-4; J Bates (GB) bt C-U Steeb (Ger), 7-5, 6-1. Semi-finals: Novacek bt Muster, 7-5, 6-4; Santoro bt Bates, 6-2, 6-2.
AUCKLAND: Women's tournament: Semi-finals: C Kuhlman (US) bt K Kschwendt (Ger), 4-6, 7-5, 6-4, E Reinach (SA) bt I Gorrochategui (Arg), 6-7, 6-4, 6-2. Final: Reinach bt Kuhlman, 6-0, 6-0.
DAVIS CUP: Asia/Oceania zone: Group one: Philippines bt Taiwan, 4-1. Group two: China bt Malaysia, 4-1; Pakistan bt Sri Lanka, 4-1; Thailand bt Kuwait, 5-0; Iran lead Jordan, 3-0. American zone: Group one: Mexico lead Canada, 3-0. Group two: Ecuador lead Venezuela, 2-1.

VOLLEYBALL

ROYAL BANK SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Men: First division: Dundee 2, MCA Cardinals 3; Team Fife 3, Pentland NUVOC 0. Second division: Westerhailes NUVOC 0, Grange 3; *Jacobite Jets 3, Su Ragazzi II 0*; DV 81 0, Falkirk 3. Women: First division: Stream-line Hazlehead 3, Paisley 0; Pentland NUVOC 1, Glasgow Powerhouse 3; Jets 3, Edinburgh University 0; Coatbridge 2, Grangeburn Coaches 3. Second division: *Team Blantyre 3, Tullos Jets 2*; *Electric Jets 0*, News Ayrshire Kyle 3; Tay Pearls 1, Falkirk 3; Cavalry Park 1, Heriot Watt Dunfers 3.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

7.30 unless stated

Premier League
Leeds v Manchester Utd (7.45)

GM Vauxhall Conference
Dagenham and Redbridge v Slough

Vauxhall FA Trophy
Second round, second replay
Gloucester v Runcorn

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Worcester v Moor Green. Postponed: Hednesford v Gloucester.
BASS IRISH CUP: Fifth round replay: Crusaders v Larne (7.45)
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Liverpool v Barnsley (7.0). Second division: Coventry v Preston (7.0).
NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Chelsea v Oxford United (7.0); Crystal Palace v Brighton; Millwall v Wimbledon (2.0); QPR v Swindon (7.0).
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: G & W Engineering Cup: Sheffield v Thackley.
ISTHMIAN LEAGUE FULL MEMBERS CUP: Preliminary round: Sutton United v Lewes.
HFS LOANS LEAGUE: First division: Rossendale v Ashton United.

RUGBY UNION

Heineken Welsh League
First division
Newbridge v Newport (7.15)

OTHER SPORT

SNOOKER: Benson and Hedges Masters (Wembley Conference Centre).

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Sandown winner strengthens owner's festival hand

Trainglot keeps Fitzgerald firing

BY DICK HINDER

JIMMY Fitzgerald was responsible for the best one-liner so far this year. After Mark Dwyer had ignored his instructions to delay his challenge on Native Mission in Ireland last month, the Malton trainer declared: "If I had a gun, I'd shoot him."

There were no such thoughts at Sandown on Saturday when Dwyer delivered the well-supported Trainglot safely home in the Tote Jackpot Handicap Hurdle, leaving Fitzgerald with more ammunition for his Cheltenham festival raiding party.

"The one thing Trainglot does well is stay and I'm viewing the Sun Alliance Novices' Hurdle for him, although Mark says I should keep my options open by entering him for a staying handicap or two."

Trainglot is owned by the Marquesa de Moratalla, who must now have high hopes of a festival treble with The Fellow and Sybillin strong favourites for the Gold Cup and Arkle Chase respectively.

Fitzgerald positively warmed to questions on Sybillin's well-being. "He's extra well. I'll give him a run at Nottingham in two weeks' time and that should put him spot on for the Arkle."

The trainer added, with a wry smile, "Native Mission goes for the Tote Gold Trophy this Saturday, and he'll definitely be held up this time."

Native Mission is 8-1 joint-favourite with Ladbrokes for the big handicap, a position he shares with Martin Pipe's Balasani, who was cut from 25-1 after his eye-catching fourth behind Trainglot, his first race for more than a year.

After a bright start with Viardot's victory in the opening event, Pipe's afternoon disintegrated, particularly as Rushing Wild put up a rather ordinary display in the Agfa Diamond Chase, where he was comfortably beaten for speed by Country Member.

"I'm not too disappointed," Pipe said. "He was trying to give a lot of weight [21lb] to a good horse. He'll go straight to the festival, while Chatam represents me in the Leopardstown Hennessy Gold Cup on Saturday."

Bookmakers were not impressed with Rushing Wild, Corals pushing him out to 10-1 (from 5-1) for Cheltenham.

Country Member, meanwhile, has been earmarked by Andy Turnell for the Ritz Club Handicap Chase, while his second winner at the meeting, Storm Alert, will tackle the Grand Annual Chase.

The Champion Hurdle betting has been as volatile as the European money markets and it was not helped by Mole Board storming back with a 33-1 success over another warm Pipe favourite, Valfinet, in the Agfa Hurdle.

Jim Old must be credited with getting Mole Board back to winning form after a long absence and history of leg problems and he is now a serious title contender at 10-1 with Corals and 16-1 with Ladbrokes.

Extensive tests are being carried out today on Morley Street, who trailed in last. The former champion has been taken out of the betting.

Nigel Twiston-Davies has a fine young prospect in Young Hustler, who looks likely to run in the Sun Alliance Chase after a splendid victory in the Scilly Isles Novices' Chase.

ED BYRNE

Driving force: Mark Dwyer is seen at his strongest urging home Trainglot in the Tote Jackpot Handicap Hurdle

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: ASK FOR MORE
(4.40 Wolverhampton)
Next best: Viking Flagship
(4.10 Wolverhampton)

Richard Evans landed an 84-1 double on Saturday with Brackenfield (100-30, nap) and Winter Squall (5-4)

Dun Gay Lass surprised by veteran on Jedforest return

POINT-TO-POINT BY BRIAN BEEL

DUN Gay Lass, the unlucky loser of the 1991 Cheltenham Foxhunter Chase, made a lacklustre seasonal debut in the open race at the Jedforest point-to-point on Saturday.

Although only beaten a neck, it was by a 14-year-old, Run Leah Run (Michael Dun) and both horses were fortunate to fill the first two places. Ian Stark had taken the former Gordon Richards-trained chaser Randolph Place to the front four fences out, but the Olympic event rider was unluckily denied his first success when the horse slipped up on the flat. Last season, Davy Blake made all the right impressions when winning his only race and he confirmed this promise in the restricted, to give Dun a double.

Davy Blake was probably the second most promising young horse of last year, the best being Hops And Pops. Robert Alner brought this one back to the course for the **South Midland Hunt Club** meeting, where he showed that he is quite out of the ordinary.

Racing in the restricted, which contained 11 previous winners, Hops And Pops started the 7-4 on favourite and three-quarters of a mile out was nearly a fence in front. Alner made no move on him and he coasted home 20 lengths clear.

This fifth win of the season for last year's champion came after the disappointing performance by his Spring Fun in the open where he finished sixth, never nearer, behind the game winner, Alfa One, ridden by Johnny Greenall.

Not so fortunate had been the same partnership's Sunny Mount in the BMW qualifier. Looking to have every chance, Sunny Mount blundered the 15th causing Greenall to lose his steering and go straight on at the next bend. The race went to Gaelic Cherry, ridden by Christian Ward-Thomas who went on to complete a double on Amari Prince in one of the six maiden races.

In another of these, Que Bella and owner-rider Kate Gabb, who were disqualified on technical grounds after coming in first on this course last season, got their just reward when winning comfortably from Miss Crabapple.

RESULTS FROM SATURDAY'S SIX MEETINGS

JEDFOREST (Friars Haugh): Hunt: 1, Short List (D Mactaggart, 2-1), 2, Hill Ryde, 3, Manhope 8 ran. Conf: 1, Owd Henry (N Hargreave, 12-1), 2, Wheelies Newmember, 3, Tudorfield Girl. 10 ran. Ladies: 1, Steele Justice (Miss P Robson, 2-5 fav), 2, Highrymer; 3, Andrew. 6 ran. Open: 1, Run Leah Run (M Dun, 9-1), 2, Dun Gay Lass, 3, Randolph Place. 9 ran. Rest: 1, Davy Blake (M Dun, 7-4 fav); 2, Fils Du Parc; 3, Furry Venture. 16 ran. Mdn I: 1, Garcall (G Robinson, 9-4 fav), 2, Springhill Sprit; 3, Merry Jerry. 10 ran. Mdn II: 1, Royal Jester (J Grossick, Evens fav); 2, Spotted Heugh; 3, Hunting Country. 11 ran.

NORTH CORNWALL (Wadebridge): Hunt: 1, Vintage Velvet (W G Turner, 5-2); 2, Flippin Coady; 3, Barton Lad. 7 ran. Open: 1, Holy Foley (N Harris, 9-2); 2, Midnight Madness, 3, Another Bolus. 5 ran. Ladies: 1, For A Lark (Miss M Turner, 9-4); 2, Hear A Nightingale, 3, Little Lemon. 7 ran. Rest: 1, Penult (J Dufosee, 4-1); 2, Stoke Hand; 3, Seasonal Sprit. 12 ran. Conf: 1, Intec (T Dennis, 5-4 fav), 2, Mareth Line, 3, Winters Sovereign. 9 ran. Inter: 1, Bold Accord (Miss K Bailey, 9-2); 2, Sweet Patrick, 3, Bargain And Sale. 9 ran. Open mdn I: 1, Rough Tor (Miss L Blackford, 4-1); 2, Allen's Rock; 3, Pinston Cove. 11 ran. Open mdn II: 1, Shaugh Moor (Miss M Turner, 7-2), 2, The General's Drum; 3, Severe Gale. 11 ran.

OLD RABY HUNT CLUB (Witton Castle): Hunt: 1, Wild Child (N F Smith, 5-1), 2, Glen Lochan, 3, Stanwick Monument. 9 ran. BMW conf: 1, John Corbet (H Brown, 9-4 fav); 2, Papos Surprise; 3, Iveagh Lad. 10 ran. Ladies: 1, Ellerton Hill (Mrs J Brown, 1-3 fav); 2, Wallingo; 3, Wide Butt. 9 ran. Open: 1, Straight Pilot (H Brown, 4-1); 2, Wall Game, 3, Mister Point. 13 ran. Rest: 1, Lula Pattie (P Jenkins, 20-1); 2, Gan Awry; 3, Stelzer. 14 ran. Open mdn I: 1, Red Under The Bed (S Brisby, 10-1); 2, Mighty Miss, 3, Always Grumbling. 15 ran. Open mdn II: 1, Preset (S Whitaker, 5-2); 2, Le Jouseur, 3, Lawnswood Boy. 14 ran.

SOUTH MIDLANDS AREA HUNT CLUB (Heythrop): Hunt: 1, Tumbril (L Lay, 12-1), 2, Fine Lace; 3, Perboy. 17 ran. BMW Conf: 1, Gaelic Cherry (C Ward-Thomas, 8-1), 2, Mirage Day; 3, Another Soldier. 22 ran. Open: 1, Alpha One (J Greenall, 7-1); 2, Wille McGarr, 3, Chergo. 18 ran. Hunt mdn I, pt I: 1, Wolver's Pet (K Cousins, 4-1); 2, Red Ant; 3, Lisahane Lad. 10 ran. Hunt mdn I, pt II: 1, Anurag (J Trice-Rolph, 6-4 fav); 2, Charlie Johnson Only 2 fin. 9 ran. Ladies: 1, Le Kingdom (Miss A Dare, 2-1 fav); 2, Jimmy Cone; 3, Military Two Step. 16 ran. Hunt mdn II, pt I: 1, Amari Prince (C Ward-Thomas, 5-2 fav); 2, Langston; 3, Swete Fudge. 10 ran. Hunt mdn II, pt II: 1, Que Bella (Miss K Gabb, 9-4 jt-fav); 2, Miss Crabapple, 3, Land Of Wonder. 9 ran. Hunt mdn III: 1, First Design (S Trotman, 33-1); 2, Quick Opinion; 3, Romany Gold. 17 ran. Rest: 1, Hops And Pops (R Alner, 4-7 fav); 2, Brown Baby; 3, Royal Upham. 17 ran. Hunt mdn IV: 1, Woodhay Hill (A Sansome, 7-2); 2, Celtic Stephen; 3, Wayward Sailor. 13 ran.

THURLOW (Horseheath). Hunt: 1, Larrys Money (Miss P Claydon, 1-2 fav); 2, Politburo. 2 ran. Conf: 1, Richard Hunt (Miss L Rowe, 2-1 fav); 2, Arpal Breeze, 3, Samfen. 15 ran. Open: 1, Sneakapenny (E Nicolson, 7-4); 2, Good Waters; 3, Jasez. 5 ran. Ladies: 1, Maltby Boy (Mrs A Hickman, 7-1); 2, Mountain Crash; 3, Royal Sting. 8 ran. Inter: 1, Blakes Orphan (T Illsley, 5-2); 2, Melton Park; 3, Benington George. 11 ran. Open mdn I: 1, Horace (O Vaughan-Jones, 6-1); 2, Steam Packet; 3, Gaelic Sunrise. 11 ran. Open mdn II: 1, Russett King (W Barber, 3-1); 2, Le Moulin, 3, Granyte Palace. 9 ran.

WHEATLAND (Eyton-On-Severn): Hunt: 1, Adams Imprint (Miss H McCaull, 2-1 fav); 2, Bartinas Star; 3, Mayanncor. 6 ran. Conf: 1, Equity Player (A Crow, 5-4 fav); 2, Denslads; 3, Bodfari. 13 ran. Open I: 1, Star Crossed (S Brookshaw, 3-1); 2, Autumn Sport; 3, New Part. 16 ran. Open II: 1, Yale (A Dalton, 10-1); 2, Salcombe Harbour; 3, Corston Springs. 16 ran. Ladies: 1, Lady Llanfair (Mrs S Bryan, 5-1); 2, Kamadoor; 3, Kuwait Leel. 16 ran. Mdn: 1, Montykosky (M Wilding, 12-1); 2, April Suprise; 3, Turbo Minstrel. 15 ran. Rest: 1, Call Vina (A Crow, 4-1); 2, Arnold's Choice; 3, Welsh Legion. 21 ran.

FONTWELL PARK

THUNDERER

2.00 Thatcher Rock. 2.30 King Of Normandy. 3.00 Dagobertin. 3.30 Howaryadoon. 4.00 Boraceva. 4.30 Mohana.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.00 THATCHER ROCK.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT — SIS

2.00 CLIMPING CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS CHASE (£2,122: 2m 2f) (6 runners)

1 133046 MASTER COMEDY 11 (B,CD,F,S) (Miss J Wilkinson) Miss L Bower 9-11-3 ... B Murphy 78
2 23-63PP CITY KID 20 (Pell-mell Partners) J Gifford 8-10-10 ... P Hide —
3 60P/P COMMANCHERO 38 (J Mursell) R Hodges 8-10-10 ... T Thompson (4) —
4 6F HELLO GRANDAD 14 (C Brooks) C Brooks 9-10-10 ... M Berry (7) —
5 /03P6 RYCO 4 (F) (B Pearce) Mrs M Long 10-10-10 ... M Hourigan 81
6 F0F6-53 THATCHER ROCK 18 (F) (M Disney) P Nicholls 8-10-10 ... R Greene 88

BETTING: 5-4 Thatcher Rock, 7-2 Master Comedy, 6-1 Ryco, 8-1 City Kid, 10-1 Hello Grandad, 14-1 Commanchero.

1992: BLUEBERRY KING 8-10-6 D Fort (5-4 fav) A Turnell 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

MASTER COMEDY 10l 4th of 10 to Flashthecash in handicap chase over course and distance (soft) on penultimate start. CITY KID 22l 3rd of 9 to Croft Mill in Windsor (2m 5f 110yd, soft) novice hurdle in November; makes chasing debut here. HELLO GRANDAD 50l 6th of 14 to Washington-crossing in Lingfield (2m 4f 110yd, heavy) novice chase on penultimate start. RYCO 2½l 3rd of 7 to Red Amber in novice chase here (3m 2f 110yd, soft) in December. THATCHER ROCK 14½l 3rd of 14 to Dubacilla in Taunton (2m 3f, soft) novice handicap chase.
Selection: THATCHER ROCK (nap)

2.30 PAGHAM SELLING HURDLE (4-Y-O: £1,601: 2m 2f) (5 runners)

1 5456 COURT ROOM 18 (A Moore) A Moore 10-12 ... G Moore 95
2 023 KING OF NORMANDY 7 (BF) (R Spencer) J Ffitch-Heyes 10-12 ... A Maguire 99
3 R00U FISIANNA 7 (J Scott) Mrs M Long 10-7 ... R Rowell —
4 LAMASTRE 217F (D Chilton) C Weedon 10-7 ... Peter Hobbs —
5 RICH HEIRESS 2F (F Ellis) A Moore 10-7 ... J Clarke (7) —

BETTING: Evens King Of Normandy, 5-2 Court Room, 5-1 Rich Heiress, 6-1 Lamastre, 25-1 Fisianna.

1992: METAL OISEAU 11-4 A Charlton (7-1) J Moore 13 ran

FORM FOCUS

COURT ROOM 6¾l 6th of 10 to Monday Dean in Lingfield (AW, 2m) maiden hurdle. KING OF NORMANDY 6l 3rd of 7 to Edge Of The Glen in Plumpton (2m 1f, soft) conditional jockeys' selling hurdle. LAMASTRE plating-class performer on the Flat, having her first run over hurdles. RICH HEIRESS modest maiden on Flat, finishing 12l 2nd of 6 to Abbey Strand in Lingfield (AW, 1m) maiden in December; makes hurdling debut.
Selection: KING OF NORMANDY

3.00 GEOFFREY OSBOURNE RNLI NOVICES CHASE (£2,112: 2m 3f) (11 runners)

1 2143F4 DAGOBERTIN 16 (S) (P Leonard) M Pipe 7-11-10 ... P Scudamore 99
2 00P004- ASHMAE 259 (A Neaves) A Neaves 11-11-4 ... M Hourigan (3) 56
3 0235/0-P BLACK HORSE LAD 13 (S) (Miss S McCowan) P Nicholls 9-11-4 ... S Donohoe (5) —
4 5F-5R3P CAN'T DISCLOSE 38 (F) (Mrs J Fountain) Miss H Knight 12-11-4 ... J Duggan 70
5 P/04-P DON'T YER KNOW 49 (B) (Mrs J Hooker) P Hedger 9-11-4 ... M Richards —
6 P/P/PP0 FLYING FINISH 7 (G Graham) G Graham 8-11-4 ... J Akehurst —
7 00P-PPP HAMPER 10 (B,B,S) (N Hoare) N Mitchell 10-11-4 ... A Tory —
8 PUPFP-0 HAZZARD'S BOY 32 (B) (D Hazzard) Mrs J Dawe 8-11-4 ... N Dawe 61
9 02-P2U0 LA CIENAGA 37 (F,G) (Duke of Atholl) G Balding 9-11-4 ... J Frost 97
10 P STAYWITHME 20 (P Trant) R O'Sullivan 8-11-4 ... D O'Sullivan (3) —
11 604 WOODLANDS BOY 7 (S Moore) T Etherington 5-10-8 ... A Maguire —

BETTING: 4-6 Dagobertin, 3-1 La Cienaga, 8-1 Can't Disclose, 12-1 Woodlands Boy, 14-1 Don't Yer Know, 16-1 Staywithme, 20-1 others.

1992: LYPHENTO 8-11-4 D Murphy (3-1) J Gifford 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

DAGOBERTIN 23l 4th of 9 to Rafiki in Warwick (2m, heavy) novice chase. CAN'T DISCLOSE 23l 3rd of 13 to Derab in novice chase at Ludlow (2m 4f, good) on penultimate start. LA CIENAGA tailed off in handicap hurdle at Newbury last time; earlier ¾l 2nd of 11 to Menebuck in Wincanton (2m 5f, good) novice chase in November. WOODLANDS BOY 30l 4th of 9 to Rocket Launcher in Plumpton (2m, soft) novice chase.
Selection: LA CIENAGA

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Miss H Knight	6	15	40.0	P Scudamore	24	64	37.5
M Pipe	32	84	38.1	S Smith Eccles	12	33	36.4
D Elsworth	6	18	33.3	J Frost	16	58	27.6
P Hobbs	15	51	29.4	A Charlton	3	11	27.3
J Moore	4	16	25.0	Peter Hobbs	15	64	23.4
C Brooks	3	13	23.1	W McFarland	6	26	23.1

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

1 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 ... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

3.30 BET WITH THE TOTE HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,687: 2m 6f) (9 runners)

1 20-5256 KINGS RANK 18 (B,F,G,S) (Pond House Racing) M Pipe 8-11-10 ... P Scudamore 96
2 150/31P- YELLOW SPRING 305 (C,D,F,G,S) (Mrs R Howell) D Grissell 8-11-2 ... Peter Hobbs 90
3 6810PP ASK MOSS 30 (D,G,S) (Duke of Atholl) G Balding 8-10-12 ... J Frost 99
4 24-4451 HOWARYADOON 35 (F,S) (J Galvanoni) R Rowe 7-10-2 ... H Davies 92
5 316222 GALLANT EFFORT 18 (BF,S) (T Keep) S Dow 5-10-0 ... W McFarland 96
6 434502 METAL OISEAU 13 (B,C,G,S) (F Ivory) J Moore 5-10-0 ... A Charlton 95
7 332310 MANHATTAN BOY 58 (F,G,S) (Mrs D Hunnisett) J Ffitch-Heyes 11-10-0 ... A Maguire 93
8 6PPP-60 ENBORNE LAD 17 (G,S) (Witch Racing Club) G Enright 9-10-0 ... M Perrett 90
9 45F-PP0 LAABAS 7 (S) (J Nicholson) J Long 10-10-0 ... R Rowell 71

Long handicap: Metal Oiseau 9-12, Manhattan Boy 9-9, Enborne Lad 9-8, Laabas 8-6.

BETTING: 11-4 Howaryadoon, 3-1 Kings Rank, 4-1 Metal Oiseau, 5-1 Gallant Effort, 8-1 Manhattan Boy, 10-1 Ask Moss, 12-1 Yellow Spring, 14-1 others.

1992: LAKE TEEREEN 7-11-2 T Grantham (3-1) R Rowe 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

KINGS RANK 34½l 6th of 14 to Wiltsford in Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, heavy) handicap hurdle. YELLOW SPRING beat Dark Honey 2l in 7-runner Sandown (2m 5f 75yd, good) handicap hurdle last season. ASK MOSS beat Nineolus ¾l in 8-runner Kelso (2m 6f 110yd, soft) handicap hurdle in November. HOWARYADOON beat Passed Pawn 2l in 12-runner Newbury (3m 110yd, soft) conditional jockeys' handicap hurdle. GALLANT EFFORT ¾l 2nd of 13 to Cariax in Lingfield (AW, 2m 6f) claiming hurdle. METAL OISEAU 3l 2nd of 7 to Grenagh in Chepstow (3m, soft) handicap hurdle. MANHATTAN BOY beat Champagne Run ¾l in 9-runner Plumpton (2m 1f, soft) conditional jockeys' selling handicap hurdle on penultimate start.
Selection: HOWARYADOON

4.00 BOGNOR REGIS HANDICAP CHASE (£2,334: 3m 2f 110yd) (7 runners)

1 0-RP33R GHOFAR 30 (B,D,F,G,S) (D Tallner) D Elsworth 10-12-0 ... H Davies 95
2 22UU0U BORACEVA 18 (CD,F,G,S) (Duke of Atholl) G Balding 10-11-9 ... A Maguire 99
3 25-225P PACO'S BOY 30 (B,F,G,S) (F Roofing Ltd) M Pipe 8-11-8 ... P Scudamore 94
4 F4U04-6 SMOOTH ESCORT 13 (D,B,S) (Mrs D Haine) Mrs D Haine 9-10-8 ... E Murphy 95
5 5-2U233 GOLD CAP 58 (G Meadows) P Hobbs 8-10-5 ... Peter Hobbs 92
6 3453P-R PUKKA MAJOR 31 (F,G,S) (Mrs S Thomson Jones) T Thomson Jones 12-10-0 ... A Tory 94
7 43158-6 CAMDEN BELLE 44 (F,G) (B Edgeley) M Muggeridge 11-10-0 ... M Perrett 93

Long handicap: Pukka Major 9-13, Camden Belle 9-1.

BETTING: 11-4 Gold Cap, 7-2 Paco's Boy, 4-1 Ghofar, 9-2 Boraceva, 5-1 Smooth Escort, 10-1 Camden Belle, 14-1 Pukka Major.

1992: CALABRESE 7-10-13 J Kavanagh (5-6 fav) N Henderson 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

GHOFAR 10¼l 3rd of 9 to Zeta's Lad in Kempton (3m, good to soft) handicap chase on penultimate start. BORACEVA 17l 8th of 13 to Jodami in Newbury (3m 2f 110yd, soft) handicap chase on penultimate start. PACOS BOY 7l 2nd of 5 to Twin Oaks in Haydock (3m 4f 110yd, good to soft) handicap chase in November. SMOOTH ESCORT 15l 4th of 7 to Bishopdale in Uttoxeter (3m 2f, good) handicap chase on final start last term. GOLD CAP 10l 3rd of 9 to Goodshot Rich in Lingfield (3m, soft) handicap chase.
Selection: GHOFAR

4.30 CHICHESTER NOVICES HURDLE (£1,475: 2m 2f) (14 runners)

1 P ALAMIR 17 (R Tooth) N Henderson 5-11-3 ... J Kavanagh —
2 CAPTAIN DOLFORD (Mrs D Grissell) D Grissell 6-11-3 ... J Railton —
3 CERTAIN LOOK (A Neaves) A Neaves 6-11-3 ... M Hourigan (3) —
4 P FULL OF TRICKS 17 (B White) M Madgwick 5-11-3 ... T Grantham —
5 6/ JEBALI 714 (Mrs L Browning) D Browning 6-11-3 ... J Akehurst —
6 JULIOS GENIUS (Mrs P Jubert) J Gifford 6-11-3 ... E Murphy —
7 0/P60P0- JUST LIKE TRIGGER 280 (B Naylor) J Gifford 8-11-3 ... P Hide (5) —
8 MANSFIELD HOUSE 1304F (B) (Mrs R Upsen) P Upson 8-11-3 ... M Richards —
9 12211U ST ATHANS LAD 44 (B,F,G) (Geyer Estates Ltd) R Curtis 8-11-3 ... D Morris 77
10 066 SURE PRIDE 17 (J Smith Ltd) A Moore 5-11-3 ... G Moore 60
11 0-4F TIP TOP LAD 58 (Mrs E Boucher) D Grissell 6-11-3 ... Peter Hobbs 75
12 230-06R WEST BAY 11 (Mrs L Turner) T Thomson Jones 7-11-3 ... S Smith Eccles 87
13 2 ELECTRIC BUCK 75 (R Alner) R Alner 5-10-12 ... A Maguire 70
14 113122 MOHANA 19 (BF,F,G,S) (Pipe Scudamore Racing Club) M Pipe 4-10-11 ... P Scudamore 99

BETTING: 1-2 Mohana, 6-1 St Athans Lad, 8-1 Tip Top Lad, 10-1 West Bay, Electric Buck, 12-1 Sure Pride, Julios Genius, 14-1 others.

1992: WOODURATHER 6-11-12 P Scudamore (2-1 jt-fav) M Pipe 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

JULIOS GENIUS, by Julio Mariner out of an unraced dam. ST ATHANS LAD last ran over hurdles 12 months ago when 10l 6th to Royal Saxon in Huntingdon handicap hurdle (2m 4l, good). SURE PRIDE 29½l 6th of 12 to Peaceman in Kempton (2m, soft) novice hurdle with ALAMIR tailed off when pulled up before last. TIP TOP LAD 14l 4th of 16 to Castle Courageous in novice hurdle over course and distance (good to soft) on penultimate start. WEST BAY 25l 6th of 17 to Dont Light Up in Leicester (2m 4l 110yd, soft) novice hurdle on penultimate start. ELECTRIC BUCK 12l 2nd of 7 to Carrigeen Lad in Plumpton (2m 4l, soft) novice hurdle. MOHANA 8l 2nd of 16 to Winter Squall in Ludlow (2m, soft) novice hurdle.
Selection: MOHANA

Mighty Mogul put down

MIGHTY Mogul, ante-post favourite for the Champion Hurdle until last weekend, has died. He was put down after an adverse reaction to an operation on the off-foreleg he injured at Cheltenham.

His trainer, David Nicholson, said yesterday: "Having successfully undergone surgery to pin the carpal joint on Friday, Mighty Mogul suffered a multiple fracture to the adjacent bone yesterday, due to stress, and was put down on humane grounds."

Mighty Mogul soared to the top of the Champion Hurdle betting after registering his fifth victory of the season in impressive style in the Christmas Hurdle at Kempton Park.

But disaster struck at Cheltenham eight days ago in his preparation race for the Chamion Hurdle. Mighty Mogul was never travelling well and Richard Dunwoody pulled him up when it became obvious that the horse was in considerable discomfort.

Mighty Mogul's demise is a cruel blow for Nicholson, who has done so well with the horses transferred to him last year by Bill and Shirley Robins. They may now be represented by Baydon Star in the Champion Hurdle.

Blazing Walker has fine return

BLAZING Walker returned from a 22-month absence to finish third in the Marston Moor Limited Handicap Chase at Wetherby on Saturday, and is now a 14-1 chance with William Hill for the Cheltenham Gold Cup.

Staying on strongly over the last two fences after being outpaced down the back straight, the top weight finished full of running to be beaten only two-and-a-half lengths and a head by Armagret and Deep Sensation.

His jockey Chris Grant said: "Blazing Walker has run a great race — a blinder in fact. I couldn't be more pleased."

JUMP LEADERS

JOCKEYS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Losing sequence	Level stakes
R Dunwoody	102	66	60	0	-48.33
P Scudamore	97	47	32	6	+20.63
P Niven	67	35	24	0	+79.18
A Maguire	60	71	53	4	-51.52
J Osborne	49	33	37	17	-52.39
G McCourt	45	36	34	8	+15.33
N Doughty	44	22	20	3	-18.53
C Llewellyn	40	29	29	0	+34.33
S McNeill	39	20	22	0	-12.62
C Grant	38	35	31	4	-51.63

TRAINERS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Days since win	Level stakes
M Pipe	116	64	54	1	+14.98
G Richards	65	36	28	2	-17.17
D Nicholson	62	40	24	1	+50.82
Mrs M Reveley	61	31	28	1	-18.20
N Twiston-Davies	42	22	21	1	+38.10
W A Stephenson	35	25	24	—	-68.50
Jimmy Fitzgerald	34	32	27	1	-5.85
M Hammond	34	31	23	1	-28.17
N Henderson	29	21	22	4	-44.33
A Turnell	26	12	7	1	+17.26
M H Easterby	26	25	18	12	-15.09

WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER

2.10 RAINHAM (nap). 2.40 Native Scot. 3.10 Dr Rocket. 3.40 James The First. 4.10 Viking Flagship. 4.40 Intrepid Lass.

GOING: SOFT (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) — SIS

2.10 EBF NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (Qualifier: £2,285: 2m 110yd) (9 runners)

1 305 GORDON PASHA 12 D Prince 7-11-0 ... B Clifford (3)
2 JUST BALLYTOO P Jones 6-11-0 ... D Leahy (5)
3 PP MARCH LANE 13 J Webber 6-11-0 ... A Webb
4 00 PERCY SMOLLETT 61 J McConnochie 5-11-0 ... S McNeill
5 3234 RAINHAM 19 D McCain 6-11-0 ... G McCourt
6 SIXTH IN LINE Mrs V Hickman 5-11-0 ... N Williamson
7 00 THE OVERTRUMPER 11 Graeme Roe 6-11-0 ... P McDermott
8 04-F TINA'S MISSILE 51 R Lee 6-11-0 ... D Tegg
9 P26U TEA-LADY 12 Mrs A King 5-10-9 ... R Dunwoody

4-5 Rainham, 3-1 Tea-Lady, 8-1 Tina's Missile, 14-1 Gordon Pasha, 16-1 Percy Smollett, 20-1 The Overtrumper, 25-1 others.

2.40 BROMSGROVE NOVICES CLAIMING CHASE (£2,176: 3m 1f) (14)

1 32P0 SOUND OF JURA 19 (G) T Forster 8-11-12 ... C Llewellyn
2 P5U3 SOUTH HARVEST 16 (G,S) J Jenkins 10-11-6 ... R Dunwoody
3 P330 CATCHAPENNY 10 (B,S) M Wilkinson 8-11-4 ... S J O'Neill
4 2124 KINGFISHER BAY 14 (D,F,G) J White 8-11-4 ... B Clifford (3)
5 3F8P TRAVAIL TEMPORAIRE 10 N Twiston-Davies 7-10-12 ... D Bridgwater
6 0-04 WATERSFORD KNIGHT 54 J Mullins 7-10-12 ... D Salter (7)
7 4-PP SWEETING 20 J White 8-10-10 ... A Jones
8 -4UP SANSMOSS 31 (B) D Nicholson 8-10-8 ... R Bellamy
9 35F2 WILD ATLANTIC 24 (G) Mrs S Smith 10-10-8 ... G McCourt
10 5F56 NATIVE SCOT 27 K Burke 7-10-7 ... M A Fitzgerald
11 /5-U WIN ELECTRIC 23 Mrs R Henderson 7-10-7 ... Mr W Henderson
12 P64P COLONEL KENSON 20 (B) R Champion 7-10-6 ... I Lawrence
13 6-6F RYMOLBREESE 27 A James 8-10-5 ... W Marston (3)
14 1400 LOVE ON THE ROCKS 10 (S) R Price 8-10-2 ... D Tegg

7-2 Kingfisher Bay, 4-1 Sound Of Jura, 5-1 Wild Atlantic, 7-1 South Harvest, 8-1 Love On The Rocks, 10-1 Catchapenny, 12-1 Travail Temporaire, 14-1 Native Scot, 16-1 others.

3.10 BURNHILL HANDICAP CHASE (£2,259: 2m) (5)

1 21P4 SHAMANA 16 (D,G,S) D Nicholson 7-11-13 ... R Dunwoody
2 -040 ISLAND JETSETTER 4 (D,F,G,S) Mrs S Smith 7-10-10 ... G McCourt
3 33U1 DR ROCKET 10 (D,F,G,S) R Dickin 8-10-4 ... D Meredith (5)
4 42-3 BEL COURSE 13 (D,F,G,S) J Webber 11-10-3 ... W Marston (3)
5 14-P ROMAN DART 32 (D,G,S) M Scudamore 9-10-0 ... S McNeill

2-1 Dr Rocket, 3-1 Shamana, 7-2 Bel Course, 9-2 Island Jetsetter, 10-1 Roman Dart.

3.40 BECKBURY HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,796: 2m 110yd) (12)

1 P506 CHEERFUL TIMES 17F (CD,G,S) B McMahon 10-12-0 ... G Robertson (7)
2 -6P0 TRIPLE TOP 10 (V,D,F,G) K White 8-11-10 ... R Dunwoody
3 -061 GYMCRAK SOVEREIGN 13 (D,S) M H Easterby 5-11-6 ... R Garritty
4 24-3 HIGH GRADE 12 (D,G) Miss S Wilton 5-11-1 ... G McCourt
5 F/06 FIRST DIVISION 12 (D,S) W Jenks 10-11-1 ... Mr T Jenks (7)
6 F8P0 PERSIAN VALLEY 12 (D,F) F Jordan 8-11-0 ... J Lodder
7 1360 KNIGHTS 12 (G) C Broad 7-10-13 ... V Slattery (5)
8 1/44 HIDDEN OATS 12 (CD,S) Mrs J Pitman 6-10-12 ... M Pitman
9 1126 JAMES THE FIRST 24 (D,F,S) P Nicholls 5-10-12 ... M A Fitzgerald
10 62-5 MOST INTERESTING 12 (D,F,S) G Jones 8-10-0 ... B Clifford (3)
11 3110 PUNCHBAG 16 (S) G Ham 7-10-0 ... C Llewellyn
12 -220 CREAM AND GREEN 12 (CD,G) K White 9-10-0 ... D J Moffatt (5)

7-2 Gymcrak Sovereign, 4-1 Hidden Oats, 5-1 James The First, 7-1 High Grade, Cream And Green, 8-1 Knights, 12-1 Most Interesting, Punchbag, 14-1 others.

4.10 BELVIDE NOVICES CHASE (£2,176: 2m) (7)

1 P/00 ALWAYS AWAY 27 J White 9-11-2 ... D Skyrme
2 -0P0 BELLS YEW GREEN 13 J Bosley 11-11-2 ... M Bosley
3 0/0P COP FOR THAT 13 Miss J Eaton 11-11-2 ... S Lyons (5)
4 -34R DIS TRAIN 20 (BF,G,S) S Sherwood 9-11-2 ... J Osborne
5 0/0P FINE HARVEST 16 B McMahon 7-11-2 ... T Wall
6 2242 SHU FLY 9 (BF,F,G) C Broad 9-11-2 ... B Bradley
7 33-F VIKING FLAGSHIP 6 (BF,F,S) D Nicholson 6-11-2 ... R Dunwoody

4-6 Viking Flagship, 5-2 Shu Fly, 9-2 Dis Train, 20-1 Always Away, 25-1 Fine Harvest, 33-1 Cop For That, Bells Yew Green.

4.40 CANNING NOVICES HURDLE (£1,484: 3m 1f 110yd) (12)

1 3/51 MELEAGRIS 19 (S) D Nicholson 8-11-12 ... R Dunwoody
2 2/21 ASK FOR MORE 12 (C,S) J Edwards 8-11-4 ... N Williamson
3 0-52 BALLOO HOUSE 16 (V,F) Mrs P Sly 8-11-4 ... A Carroll
4 4514 CAPTAIN BARNEY 20 (B,S) J Long 10-11-4 ... Leesa Long (7)
5 P-P COPFORD 14 D Wintle 6-11-4 ... P McDermott
6 206 EARTH SUMMIT 96 N Twiston-Davies 5-11-4 ... C Llewellyn
7 0046 GENEROUS SCOT 19 A James 9-11-4 ... R Bellamy
8 406- VAZON EXPRESS 455 P Dalton 7-11-4 ... N Mann
9 0-4 WADELEY 30 J Edwards 6-11-4 ... Mr T Jenks (7)
10 0003 APSIMORE 12 J Tuck 6-10-13 ... D Meade (7)
11 22/5 INTREPID LASS 14 H Candy 6-10-13 ... J Osborne
12 2P63 JUST A SECOND 14 C Drewe 8-10-13 ... G McCourt

3-1 Ask For More, 4-1 Meleagris, 5-1 Wadeley, 6-1 Balloo House, 8-1 Intrepid Lass, 10-1 Just A Second, Apsimore, 12-1 Earth Summit, 14-1 Generous Scot, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: D Nicholson, 14 winners from 56 runners, 25.0%; Mrs J Pitman, 9 from 45, 20.0%; R Lee, 11 from 56, 19.6%; Miss S Wilton, 9 from 54, 16.7%; J Edwards, 9 from 54, 16.7%; B A McMahon, 5 from 34, 14.7%.

JOCKEYS: R Dunwoody, 23 winners from 105 rides, 21.9%; M Pitman, 6 from 30, 20.0%; N Mann, 6 from 33, 18.2%, N Williamson, 6 from 33, 18.2%; J Osborne, 10 from 56, 17.9%; A Carroll, 3 from 17, 17.6%.

SOUTHWELL

THUNDERER

1.50 Who's That Lady. 2.20 Horizon. 2.50 Nikki Noo Noo. 3.20 Lock Keeper. 3.50 Magication. 4.20 Mentalasanythin.

GOING: STANDARD — SIS
DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

1.50 BASIL CLAIMING STAKES (£2,427: 6f) (14 runners)

1 0336 BOY MARTIN 3 (B,D,F) S Kettlewell 4-9-5 ... S Webster 2
2 -500 SIR TASKER 11 (C,F,G) J Harris 5-9-5 ... T Quinn 9
3 1/0- HANSOM LAD 117 (CD,F) W Haigh 10-8-13 ... Dean McKeown 11
4 00-5 BRISAS 17 (B,CD,F,G) T Fairhurst 6-8-9 ... J Fanning 6
5 46-4 SALLY'S SON 2 (D,F) W O'Gorman 7-8-9 ... Emma O'Gorman (3) 14
6 40-4 BLACK BOY 17 (B) R Marvin 4-8-7 ... F Norton (3) 5
7 6-23 WHO'S THAT LADY 24 (S) M H Easterby 4-8-7 ... J Quinn 3
8 00/ MISS EL ARAB 488 (F,G) E Alston 5-8-4 ... A Tucker (3) 10
9 0/0 WALLANGRIFF 7 (B,CD) D Cosgrove 5-8-4 ... M Fenton (5) 7
10 364- SULLY'S CHOICE 182 (D,F,G,S) D Chapman 12-8-0 ... S Wood 8
11 000- GRAND TIME 80 (C,F,S) Mrs J Dawe 4-7-13 ... G Bardwell 12
12 000- SAVINIEN 51 P Felden 4-7-13 ... Kim McDonnell (7) 1
13 4/5- MISS MOODY 12J J Bradley 7-7-8 ... N Adams 4
14 3-03 QUATRE FEMME 3 (D,F) M Johnston 6-7-8 ... T Williams 13

4-1 Quatre Femme, 5-1 Who's That Lady, 6-1 Sally's Son, 7-1 Grand Time, 8-1 Boy Martin, 10-1 Sully's Choice, 12-1 Black Boy, 14-1 Brisas, 16-1 others.

2.20 THYME HANDICAP (£2,322: 1m 4f) (10)

1 0-50 LE TEMERAIRE 7 (C,D,F) N Tinkler 7-9-10 ... Kim Tinkler 4
2 6-02 BAHER 14 Mrs A Swinbank 4-9-8 ... D Nicholls 8
3 401- WESTFIELD MOVES 216 (CD,F,G) H Collingridge 5-9-8 ... J Quinn 2
4 2135 SUGEMAR 7 (CD,F) M Chapman 7-8-6 ... D McCabe (7) 6
5 -334 SILVER SAMURAI 10 (B,C,F,G) Mrs V Aconley 4-9-5 ... S Maloney (7) 10
6 22-1 HORIZON 7 (B,CD,F,G) T Thomson Jones 5-9-5 (5ex) ... D Biggs 9
7 1215 ATLANTIC WAY 21 (CD,BF,F) C Hill 5-8-12 ... G Bardwell 3
8 15-4 ISLAND BLADE 17 (C,D,F) R Akehurst 4-8-7 ... G Carter 7
9 0/ RED INDIAN 458J (G) W Haigh 7-8-0 ... L Charnock 1
10 50-5 BATTUTA 7 R Earnshaw 4-7-11 ... D Wright (7) 5

6-4 Horizon, 9-2 Island Blade, 6-1 Atlantic Way, 7-1 Sugemar, 8-1 Baher, 12-1 Silver Samurai, Westfield Moves, 14-1 others.

2.50 PARSLEY HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £2,238: 7f) (7)

1 0-15 PERSIAN TRAVELLER 17 (CD,F) T Fairhurst 9-7 ... G Parkin (7) 7
2 3521 PINE RIDGE LAD 7 (B,C,F) M Johnston 9-2 (5ex) ... Dean McKeown 4
3 04-2 KINGSTON BROWN 10 D Loder 9-0 ... F Norton (3) 6
4 2314 ROSE FLYER 7 (CD) M Chapman 8-10 ... D McCabe (7) 5
5 -563 EXPRESS MARIECURIE 7 (B,G) Mrs N Macauley 8-10 ... Alex Greaves 3
6 3122 NIKKI NOO NOO 3 (CD,F) C Hill 8-10 ... J Quinn 1
7 4-02 JORDYWRATH 7 (C) R Spicer 8-7 ... J McLaughlin 2

11-4 Nikki Noo Noo, 7-2 Pine Ridge Lad, 9-2 Persian Traveller, 5-1 Kingston Brown, 6-1 Rose Flyer, 7-1 Express Mariecurie, 10-1 Jordywrath.

SCRATCHINGS: All engagements (dead): Le Pelley's Isle, Sprucer, Rodomont, Royal Poppet, Mr Snipe, Shepherd's Hymn.

3.20 SAGE CLAIMING STAKES (£2,301: 7f) (5)

1 50-0 POP TO STANS 28 (CD,F) J Pearce 4-8-10 ... G Bardwell 1
2 000- THE CUCKOO'S NEST 61 (D,S) M Williams 5-8-8 ... Dean McKeown 2
3 3315 LOCK KEEPER 10 (CD) C Hill 7-8-4 ... J Quinn 5
4 3-11 PRIME MOVER 17 (V,CD) D Burchell 5-8-4 ... L Charnock 3
5 0/0 BOLD SPARK 10 (CD) J Bradley 5-8-0 ... N Adams 4

4-5 Prime Mover, 2-1 Lock Keeper, 5-1 Pop To Stans, 16-1 Bold Spark, 20-1 The Cuckoo's Nest.

3.50 ROSEMARY MAIDEN GUARANTEED SWEEPSTAKES (3-Y-O: £2,070: 6f) (11)

1 4-66 APOLLO DE ORIENTE 21 J Wainwright 9-0 ... G Parkin (7) 2
2 000- CRACKER JACK 165 (B) T Fairhurst 9-0 ... J Fanning 1
3 300- GOOD IMAGE 148 A Jarvis 9-0 ... T Quinn 3
4 -524 HERSHEBAR 7 (B) S Bowring 9-0 ... S Webster 6
5 0-64 MUSICAL PHONE 21 (B) J Leigh 9-0 ... D Nicholls 9
6 ALWAYS BAILEYS M Johnston 8-9 ... Dean McKeown 10
7 000- BURBLE 55 D Chapman 8-9 ... S Wood 11
8 500- MAGICATION 116 J Balding 8-9 ... Claire Balding (7) 8
9 0-55 PALACEGATE GIRL 9 (B) J Berry 8-9 ... J Carroll 5
10 000- THE CUT 53 C Booth 8-9 ... L Charnock 4
11 000- VILAMAR 120 E Alston 8-9 ... J Quinn 7

3-1 Hershebar, 4-1 Palacegate Girl, 9-2 Always Baileys, 6-1 Magication, 7-1 Musical Phone, 8-1 Apollo De Oriente, 12-1 Vilamar, 14-1 others.

4.20 CHIVE HANDICAP (£2,469: 1m) (13)

1 23-2 ADMIRALS SECRET 10 (CD) C Wall 4-9-13 ... S Webster 10
2 0-12 RIPSNORTER 16 (CD,S) J Bennett 4-9-13 ... T Quinn 7
3 5151 SIRTELIMAR 7 (CD) R Spicer 4-9-8 (5ex) ... J McLaughlin 2
4 0031 DIGGER DOYLE 7 (CD) C Allen 4-9-8 (5ex) ... F Norton (3) 13
5 -551 MENTALASANYTHIN 10 (CD,S) A Bailey 4-9-4 ... D Wright (7) 4
6 440- COOL PARADE 224 (D,F) C Tinkler 5-8-1 ... Dean McKeown 6
7 -530 SAREEN EXPRESS 9 (D) Mrs J Dawe 5-8-8 ... G Bardwell 1
8 006- MARIETTE LARKIN 102 J Hetherton 4-8-8 ... J Fanning 9
9 0-00 MAI PEN RAI 7 (D,F,S) C Hill 5-7-13 ... D Biggs 11
10 0-66 BROAD APPEAL 16 (V,D,F,G) R Spicer 5-7-12 ... J Quinn 8
11 04-0 ROYAL ACCLAIM 10 (V,D,F,S) J Bradley 8-7-12 ... N Adams 5
12 -006 COMISKEY PARK 3 (B) D Chapman 4-7-10 ... S Wood 12
13 -000 RESISTING 7 M Chapman 5-7-7 ... Claire Balding (7) 3

3-1 Sirtelimar, 4-1 Mentalasanythin, 5-1 Admirals Secret, 6-1 Digger Doyle, 7-1 Sareen Express, 10-1 Comiskey Park, 12-1 Cool Parade, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: R Akehurst, 4 winners from 15 runners, 26.7%; W O'Gorman, 35 from 165, 21.2%; R Spicer, 5 from 24, 20.8%, J Hetherton, 5 from 27, 18.5%; J Pearce, 8 from 44, 18.2%; C Hill, 19 from 111, 17.1%.

JOCKEYS: Alex Greaves, 58 from 231, 25.1%; D McCabe, 4 from 16, 25.0%; J McLaughlin, 4 from 21, 19.0%; Emma O'Gorman, 29 from 167, 17.4%; G Carter, 31 from 234, 13.2%; D Biggs, 18 from 138, 13.0%.

□ Lester Piggott's long-awaited return to the saddle was postponed again yesterday because of waterlogging at the Nad Al Sheba racecourse in Dubai. Piggott, who has been riding out for ten days, is now expected to resume on Wednesday with four booked rides at the same track.

RESULTS FROM SATURDAY'S FIVE MEETINGS

Sandown Park

Going: good, good to soft in places (chase course): good to soft (hurdles)

12.55 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Viardot (P Scudamore, 11-4). 2, Home Counties (8-11 fav); 3, Curican (5-1). 5 ran. NR: Desert Force. 1½l, 8l. M Pipe. Tote: £3.00; £1.30, £1.40. DF: £1.90. CSF: £4.96.

1.25 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Young Hustler (C Llewellyn, 5-2 fav); 2, Dawson City (7-2); 3, Fighting Words (16-1). 11 ran. 5l, nk. N Twiston-Davies. Tote: £3.10; £1.90, £1.40, £3.50. DF: £7.40. Trio: £62.20. CSF: £11.34.

2.00 (2m 6f hdle) 1, Trainglot (M Dwyer, 7-2 fav); 2, Sweet Duke (9-1); 3, Peanuts Pet (14-1). 15 ran. 6l, 2l. Jimmy Fitzgerald. Tote: £4.20; £1.90, £3.90, £4.10. DF: £28.40. CSF: £33.22. Tricast: £368.53.

2.35 (3m 110yd ch) 1, Country Member (L Harvey, 100-30); 2, Rushing Wild (8-15 fav); 3, Captain Dibble (9-2). 3 ran. NR: Royal Athlete. 6l, 3l. A Turnell. Tote: £3.60. DF: £1.60. CSF: £5.19.

3.10 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Mole Board (C Llewellyn, 33-1); 2, Valfinet (6-5 fav). 3, Ruling (9-2). 5 ran. NR: Gallant Effort. 6l, 20l. J Old. Tote: £19.60; £2.30, £1.60. DF: £14.80. CSF: £68.10.

3.40 (2m ch) 1, Storm Alert (S McNeill, 2-1 fav); 2, Fragrant Dawn (11-4); 3, Young Pokey (4-1). 5 ran. 4l, 12l. A Turnell. Tote: £2.30; £1.40, £1.70. DF: £4.10. CSF: £7.41.

4.10 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Winter Squall (R Dunwoody, 5-4 fav); 2, Giventime (11-4); 3, Ross Graham (66-1). 10 ran. 1l, 15l. D Nicholson. Tote: £2.50; £1.50, £1.30, £7.30. DF: £3.80. CSF: £5.41.

Jackpot: £11,266.80 (0.1 winning tickets; pool of £15,225.52 carried forward to Ascot on Wednesday).

Placepot: £81.30.

Chepstow

1.00 1, Plastic Spaceage (11-8 fav); 2, Wide Boy (11-4); 3, Last 'O' The Bunch (13-8). 3 ran

1.30 1, Fiddlers Pike (7-2), 2, Bonanza Boy (10-1); 3, Shoon Wind (15-8 fav). 6 ran.

2.00 1, Brackenfield (100-30 fav); 2, Gaelstrom (4-1); 3, Lo Stregone (7-2). 10 ran. NR: Howaryadoon.

2.30 1, Mulbank (4-1); 2, Quentin Durwood (5-2); 3, Rafiki (7-4 fav). 7 ran.

3.00 1, Ardesee (100-30); 2, Starember Lad (11-8 fav); 3, Spartan Dancer (3-1). 7 ran. NR: Double Silk.

3.30 1, Sabaki River (6-4 fav); 2, Norstock (5-2); 3, Knighton Coombe (6-1). 4 ran.

Wetherby

1.05 1, Hamanaka (5-2 fav); 2, Inan (25-1); 3, Tusky (10-1). 25 ran.

1.35 1, The Red One (4-7 fav); 2, Dubalea (16-1); 3, Say No More (9-2). 4 ran.

2.05 1, Regan (13-2); 2, Nessfield (4-1); 3, Bossburg (20-1). Winnie The Witch 4-5 fav. 6 ran. NR: Miss Shaw.

2.35 1, Bollinger (13-8 fav); 2, Abnegation (5-2); 3, Gabriella Mia (3-1). 7 ran.

3.05 1, Armagret (25-1); 2, Deep Sensation (15-8 fav); 3, Blazing Walker (10-1). 8 ran.

3.35 1, Inconclusive (20-1), 2, Equinoctial (12-1); 3, The Laughing Lord (85-40 fav) 9 ran.

4.05 1, Loch Garanne (13-8 jt-fav); 2, Qualitair Sound (4-1); 3, Bollin Patrick (13-8 jt-fav). 4 ran. NR: Beachy Head

Stratford

1.25 1, Aramel (7-4 fav); 2, Toss The Dice (5-1); 3, Formal Invitation (5-2). 10 ran.

1.55 1, Shamba (33-1); 2, Co-Chin (11-8 fav); 3, Broughton's Tango (10-1). 9 ran.

2.25 1, Marlolino (9-1), 2, Teseldkurederim (2-1 fav); 3, Lisa Rosa (9-4). 7 ran.

2.55 1, Northern Jinks (100-30); 2, Driving Force (11-4); 3, Will's Bounty (12-1). Pithy 10-11 fav. 4 ran.

3.25 1, News Review (16-1); 2, Rathvinden House (11-8 fav); 3, Sandybraes (25-1). 12 ran.

3.55 1, Sweatshirt (9-2); 2, Curaheen Boy (8-1); 3, Porter's Song (12-1). Duncan 6-4 fav. 8 ran.

4.25 1, Albertito (9-4 fav); 2, Flakey Dove (11-4); 3, Crystal Bear (3-1). 8 ran.

Lingfield Park

1.50 1, Lowawatha (8-1); 2, Set The Fashion (4-5 fav); 3, Castle Galah (11-1). 6 ran. NR: Doc's Coat, Wessex Milord.

2.20 1, Samsolom (12-1); 2, Respectable Jones (7-4); 3, Bold Habit (6-4 fav). 5 ran.

2.50 1, Modest Hope (8-1); 2, Strat's Legacy (13-8 fav); 3, El Domino (9-2). 10 ran.

3.20 1, Allinson's Mate (7-1); 2, Killick (9-2); 3, Scots Law (9-2). Try Leguard 5-2 fav. 7 ran.

3.50 1, Take Your Partner (9-4 fav); 2, Mister Blake (5-1); 3, Kryptos (7-2). 7 ran.

4.20 1, Henlu (5-1), 2, Welley Lad (12-1); 3, Invocation (8-1). Banbury Flyer 7-2 fav. 11 ran. NR: Simmoor.

Blinkered first time

SOUTHWELL: 2.20 Silver Samurai, 4.20 Comiskey Park.

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Power to examine officer abroad

In re Seagull Manufacturing Co Ltd (in Liquidation)

Before Lord Justice Lloyd, Lord Justice Hirst and Mr Justice Peter Gibson

[Judgment February 3]

Section 133 of the Insolvency Act 1986 gave the High Court jurisdiction in a compulsory winding up to order the public examination of a company's officer, within the categories specified in subsection (1), notwithstanding that the officer was outside the jurisdiction.

The Court of Appeal so held dismissing the appeal of Colin John Slinn from the judgment of Mr Justice Mummery in the Chancery Division (*The Times* May 10, 1991; [1992] Ch 128) when he allowed the appeal of the Official Receiver against the decision of Mr Registrar Pimm on September 25, 1990 that, *inter alia*, an order dated July 17, 1990 requiring the appellant's attendance for the purpose of being publicly examined be set aside.

Mr Paul Teverson for the appellant; Mr Nigel Davis, QC, for the Official Receiver.

MR JUSTICE PETER GIBSON said that the company being wound up was incorporated in England in 1983 and the appellant, a British subject and its director between 1986 and 1988, was now resident in Alderney.

The winding-up order was made in April 1990 and it was alleged that the appellant failed to co-operate with the official receiver in the provision of information. Affidavit evidence of creditors' claims against the company totalled over £2 million.

His Lordship said that the 1986 Act consolidated enactments relating to company insolvency and those relating to the insolvency and bankruptcy of individuals following the *Report of the Insolvency Law Review Committee on Insolvency Law and Practice* (1982) (Cmnd 8558), chaired by Sir Kenneth Cork, and it was clear that the Act was intended to harmonise the systems.

The jurisprudence of the court had limited the court's jurisdiction in relation to the winding up of foreign companies to those companies having a sufficient connection with England and Wales: *In re Paramount Airways Ltd* ([1992] 3 WLR 690, 703).

It was to be noted in respect of section 133 that: (i) in a winding up in England the official receiver alone had the discretion to apply to the court for the public examination of the persons specified in subsection (1), and where he did so the court had to order the enquiry; (ii) the class of persons to be examined was limited to those who had voluntarily participated in a specified capacity in the company's affairs; (iii) the topics on which the person could be examined were limited: subsection (3); and (iv) a specified number of people could take part in questioning in the examination: subsection (4).

On the face of the section there was no territorial limitation and it was a well-established rule of statutory construction that English legislation was primarily territorial in effect: *Ex parte Blain* ((1879) 12 Ch D 522), *Clark v Oceanic Contractors Inc* ([1983] 2 AC 130, 145) *per* Lord Scarman.

That rule of construction was not entirely helpful to the appellant as a British subject, but it exemplified the proper reluctance of the court to construe English legislation so as to enable it to assert jurisdiction over a person in another jurisdiction unless compelled to do so by the language of the legislation.

It was necessary to look to the policy of the legislature in considering the question as to who came within the particular legislative grasp: it could not have been Parliament's intention that when a company came to a calamitous end and was being wound up that those concerned with the company's affairs should be able to escape liability from enquiry simply by not being in the jurisdiction.

Furthermore, the section had to be construed by the circumstances pertaining in the 1980s; English companies could be managed, by the use of telephones, Telexes and faxes by persons outside the jurisdiction, and an overseas company was likely to have officers not within the jurisdiction.

The question before the court was the scope of the Act and not whether the order could be publicly enforced. The enactment of the section was against the background of public worry and concern over widescale company failures.

Examinations in public and private had a considerable role to play in an enquiry as to a company's *failure: see paragraphs* 654-656 of the *Cork Report*.

Mr Teverson submitted, *inter alia*, that the very fact that the court had jurisdiction to wind up any company registered in England meant that there should be express provision to require attendance for public examination from those resident abroad.

His Lordship said that there were no reasons of comity of nations to prevent those who voluntarily took part in the formation of a company in England from being subject to public examination.

The fact that provision was made for the compulsory winding up of companies and that section 133 was applicable to such cases showed that officers of such companies should be examinable publicly.

Mr Teverson relied in particular on *In re Tucker (R. C.) (a Bankrupt). Ex parte Tucker (K. R.)* ([1990] Ch 148), a case relating to the private examination of a British subject resident out of the jurisdiction, and in which Lord Justice Dillon had said (at p158) that the wording of section 25(6) of the Bankruptcy Act 1914 carried the connotation that if the person was not in England he was not liable to be brought before the English court.

Counsel drew attention to the fact that provisions for the private examination of a bankrupt, now in sections 367 and 368 of the 1986 Act, were in similar terms to section 25(6) of the 1914 Act, and that sections 236 and 237 of the 1986 Act which provided for examinations in private of companies' dealings were also in similar terms. He contended that the same territorial limitations should apply as were set by the Court of Appeal in *Tucker*, and that it would be surprising if such limitations did not apply to section 133 given the substantial overlap between the persons coming within section 133(1) and 236(2).

His Lordship said that that argument broke down for a number of reasons, such as the class of persons covered by section 25 was much wider than the three limited categories provided for in section 133, and the absence of any provision in section 133 similar to section 25(6).

Nor was it accepted that the territorial limitation inferred from section 25(6) in respect of the private examination of a debtor had to be inferred in relation to the public examination provision in section 133.

His Lordship agreed with the judge at first instance that it was more appropriate to compare section 133 with the public examination provisions relating to bankrupts, now in section 290 of the 1986 Act.

It was impossible to contend in view of that provision and the conditions set out in section 265(1) that a debtor who was out of the court's jurisdiction could not be made subject to public examination.

It was plain that section 133 did apply to a person in the appellant's position notwithstanding his presence outside the jurisdiction and the judge reached the right decision for the right reasons.

LORD JUSTICE HIRST, concurring, said that the key question in the appeal was who came within the legislative grasp of section 133. The examination under the section was to enable the Official Receiver to investigate, *inter alia*, the causes of a company's business failure for which the officer was or might be partly responsible.

That official investigation was of great public importance and it would be frustrated if the appellant's contention was right that the company official was immune from public examination if he happened to be abroad, or if the company had been defrauded and he had fled the jurisdiction.

Those were not fanciful illustrations. Therefore all officers as described in section 133(1) whether inside or outside the jurisdiction were within its legislative grasp, and there were no territorial limitations.

Lord Justice Lloyd agreed.

Solicitors: Rose & Birn, Stoke Newington; Treasury Solicitor.

Limit to exclusion clause

Morley v United Friendly Insurance plc

Before Lord Justice Neill and Lord Justice Beldam

[Judgment January 29]

A clause in a personal accident insurance policy which excluded liability for an insured person's "wilful exposure to needless peril", could only be relied on in cases where either it could be shown that an insured injury was quite likely to occur or that the insured person clearly appreciated the risk of the injury occurring. A merely negligent or reckless act by the insured *person did not fall within the* exclusion clauses.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by the plaintiffs, William and Eva Morley, from the decision of Judge Walker at Kingston upon Hull County Court on March 4, 1991, who had dismissed their claim against the defendants, United Friendly Insurance plc, for £3,000 alleged to be payable under a personal accident insurance policy effected on the life of their deceased son.

The deceased had died from a head injury when he fell from the back of a car driven by his fiancee. The accident occurred when the deceased, who had got out of the car to relieve himself, jumped on to the rear bumper of the car when his fiancee, *for a practical joke*, started moving the car forward slowly while he was approaching it. Instead of stopping she accelerated slightly and began to steer in a zig-zag fashion.

When the plaintiffs claimed the death benefit payable under the policy the defendants relied on an exclusion clause which stated that no accident benefit was payable if the "death, injury or incapacity shall result directly or indirectly from or be accelerated by ... (iii) wilful exposure to needless peril (except in an attempt to save human life)".

Mr Bernard Gateshill for the plaintiffs; *Mr Frank Burton* for the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE NEILL said that the question was whether at the moment the deceased stepped on to the rear bumper he wilfully exposed himself to an unnecessary peril within the meaning of the policy.

How was the phrase "wilful exposure to needless peril" *in the* policy to be interpreted? It was clear and accepted by the insurers that the words could not be construed too strictly. They could not be construed so as to remove insurance cover from an insured who engaged in contact sports such as football.

In his Lordship's judgment, the "*wilfulness*" had to be directed to "exposure to peril". It was not enough to show an intentional act which resulted in peril. There had to be a conscious act of volition, which could include recklessness, directed to the running of the risk.

Accordingly, to determine where *in the spectrum* a particular case fell it was necessary to have regard to all the circumstances including (a) the likelihood of the insured injury being incurred if the risk was taken; and (b) the opportunity for reflection before the risk was taken.

If one applied the first criterion a distinction could be drawn between Formula One motor racing and hang *gliding on the one* hand and golf and football on the other. His Lordship regarded the second criterion also as important.

In addition, it was necessary to take account of the commercial purpose of the policy. It was intended to insure the deceased against the risk of suffering some serious injury. It was common ground that the cover included injuries caused by the insured's own negligence. The insurers said that the actions of the deceased were not merely negligent but were foolhardy and reckless.

No one had sought to disturb the judge's conclusion that at the moment the deceased stepped on to the bumper "the car was hardly moving". It seemed to his Lordship that at that moment there was a risk that the deceased might fall off and cut or bruise himself. He might well have sprained his wrist or sprained his ankle. But the risk at that stage of a fracture of a bone, although a real risk as opposed to a fanciful risk, was not very great.

That modest risk had then to be linked with the opportunity for, and presumed extent of, the appreciation of the risk. His Lordship agreed with the judge's assessment of what happened as being "a foolish bit of horseplay which went dramatically wrong".

His Lordship differed from the judge, however, with his description of the horseplay as "reckless" if in the context he equated recklessness with wilful exposure to peril. The deceased's action was a momentary act of stupidity. The peril was clearly unnecessary but his Lordship's conclusion was that the deceased had not wilfully exposed himself to unnecessary peril.

The exclusion clause should be reserved for cases where either the occurrence of an insured injury was more likely or where the appreciation of the peril could be more clearly demonstrated.

The appeal would be allowed.

Lord Justice Beldam delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Philip Hamer & Co, Hull; Barlow Lyde & Gilbert.

Reasons for length of order must be given

In re W (Minor: Secure Accommodation Order)

Before Mrs Justice Booth

[Reasons January 28]

Justices should not make a secure accommodation order under section 25 of the Children Act 1989 for longer than was necessary and unavoidable and should give reasons for the length of the order.

Where justices differed from the recommendation of a guardian *ad litem* they were under a duty to explain carefully why they did so.

Mrs Justice Booth so held in the Family Division in a reserved judgment giving reasons for allowing, on January 14, the appeal of W, a child, against the three-month secure accommodation order made under section 25 of the 1989 Act by justices at York Family Proceedings Court on November 18, 1992.

Mr Peter Horrocks for the child; Mr Jonathan Bennett for the local authority; Mrs Jennifer Kershaw for the guardian *ad litem*.

MRS JUSTICE BOOTH said that the local authority had sought an order which would allow them to keep W in secure accommodation for the maximum period of three months. The guardian *ad litem* had supported the application but was of the view that the appropriate period was one of five weeks.

There was *no dispute that the* grounds for making an order were established. W was a child who was being looked after by a local authority, she had a history of absconding and if she absconded she was likely to suffer significant harm.

However, W argued, the justices had not gone on to consider as a *separate issue the length of time* for which the order was necessary and unavoidable and had not make any findings of fact or given any adequate reasons for deciding upon the maximum period of three months.

In her Ladyship's view, the justices had not had proper regard to all those matters which they *should have considered before* making what amounted to a draconian order in respect of the girl.

Where a court was satisfied that the criteria set out in section 25 of the 1989 Act had been established, it was required to make an order authorising the child to be kept in secure accommodation. But having found the criteria proved which compelled it to make such an order, the court had then to go on to specify the maximum term for which the child could be so kept.

At that stage the court had to consider carefully the purpose to be achieved by the order which required the liberty of a child to be restricted and had to assess, as best it could, the length of time it was likely to take.

Her Ladyship accepted that on an initial application that might be a difficult task on which the court might have little evidence to assist it.

In such circumstances, the court should adhere to the principle that the order should be for no longer than was necessary and unavoidable and should bear in mind that the local authority could always apply for a further order if the criteria continued to exist and it was thought that the child should be detained for a longer period.

The responsibility for authorising a child to be kept in a secure unit rested with the court and should not, in effect, be delegated to a local authority.

When exercising its power to make such an order, the court had a duty to explain carefully why it did so and had to make findings of fact and give its reasons for specifying whatever was held to be the maximum period of time for which the order could take effect.

Further, the justices in their reasons had made no mention of the guardian *ad litem*'s recommendation that the order should be for five weeks or why they had felt unable to follow that recommendation.

Her Ladyship regarded that as a serious oversight. It had long been settled law that where a court differed from the recommendation of a welfare officer it was essential that it should explain carefully why it did so: see, for example, *W v W (Minor: Custody Appeal)* ([1988] 2 FLR 505).

In that respect her Ladyship did not think that any distinction could be drawn between the recommendation of a welfare officer and that of a guardian *ad litem* appointed to represent the interests of the child. The same principle had to apply equally to each.

Solicitors: Trevor Cox & Co, York; Mr M. H. Lightfoot, Northallerton; Craig & Co, Leeds.

Assertions without evidence improper

Regina v Hobstaff

Before Lord Justice McCowan and Mr Justice Ognall

[Judgment January 22]

It was wholly improper for counsel for the Crown to inform the court of the effects of an indecent assault upon the complainant without submitting supporting evidence to the court in an appropriate form.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held in allowing an appeal by Anthony Hobstaff against his sentence imposed in April 3, 1992 at Cardiff Crown Court (Judge Prosser, QC) for three counts of indecent assault, contrary to section 14(1) of the Sexual Offences Act 1956, to which he had pleaded guilty. He was sentenced to four years imprisonment on each count to run concurrent, which on appeal was reduced to three years.

The complainants were two girls, R and L who were then five and seven years of age.

One of the grounds of appeal was that the judge had allowed himself to be influenced by information given in the prosecution's opening as to the effect of the appellant's conduct upon the complainants without calling proper evidence.

Mr Keith Bush, who did not appear below, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant.

MR JUSTICE OGNALL, giving the judgment of the court, said that matters which gave rise to the appeal caused the single judge and the Court of Appeal anxiety in that when the appellant had pleaded guilty to three counts of indecent assault, the prosecution stated that it had accepted the pleas on the basis that the children did not encourage any of the assaults.

Counsel for the Crown also stated that the effect of the assaults had been *horrific*. R was now sleep-walking and suffered from nightmares from which she would awake screaming. Both children had been seen by a child psychologist. R was considered to be suffering a mixture of anger, disgust and distress. They were frightened of meeting the appellant and would avoid going outside to play.

The defence counsel was taken aback and concerned as he had received no prior instructions that such submissions were to be made.

What the prosecution counsel said as to the effect of the indecent assault on the two girls was wholly improper especially when covered in colourful or emotive language.

If there was admissible evidence of that character then taking into account the guidance of Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice in *Attorney-General's Reference (No 1 of 1989)* ([1989] 1 WLR 1117), the evidence had to be made available in a proper form such as a witness statement.

That served two essential purposes. First, the evidence had to be served in advance to the defence. Second, the evidence had to form part of the judge's papers.

The former allowed defence counsel to deal with it in such a manner as he thought fit; the latter would enable the judge to be fully informed and his judgment would not be influenced by prosecution information alone.

Award set aside after tribunal death

Quenchers Ltd v McShane

Before Mr Justice Wood, Mr J. D. Daly and Miss C. Holroyd

[Judgment January 26]

An award of compensation totalling £11,647 was set aside by the Employment Appeal Tribunal when an industrial tribunal member died between the hearing on liability and the adjourned compensation hearing and the chairman had failed to obtain the consent of both the parties to the case being heard with only one lay member.

The appeal tribunal allowed an appeal by the employers, Quenchers Ltd, from decisions of a Manchester industrial tribunal.

Regulation 5 of the Industrial Tribunals (England and Wales) Regulations (SI 1965 No 1101) provides: "(1) ... a tribunal shall consist of a chairman and two other members but, in the absence of any one member of a tribunal other than the chairman, an appeal may with the consent of the parties be heard in the absence of such member, and in that event the tribunal shall be deemed to be properly constituted."

Mr J. S. Lawton, solicitor, for Quenchers Ltd; Mrs McShane did not appear and was not represented.

MR JUSTICE WOOD said that on January 21, 1991, an industrial tribunal chairman and two lay members found that Mrs McShane had been unfairly dismissed. The case was adjourned to give the parties the opportunity of reaching a settlement on compensation.

On March 21, the tribunal reconvened but by then one of the lay members had died and the tribunal consisted of a chairman and one lay member member. The employee was represented by counsel and the managing director represented the company.

The tribunal made a basic award of £2,722, but made no compensatory award. At an application for a review on February 11, 1992 when the company did not appear and the applicant was again represented by counsel, it was explained that one of the lay members had died and the employee's counsel agreed to the case proceeding before the chairman and one member.

The appplication was granted and another hearing took place on June 16, 1992 when the company was represented by a solicitor and the tribunal made a compensatory award.

A point had arisen on the constitution of the industrial tribunal. Regulation 5(1) provided for the consent of the parties in such circumstances. There was nothing to indicate that the company had consented to the constitution of the tribunal on March 1991 or February 1992, nor had the company's solicitor been asked for his consent in June 1992.

Those three decisions would have to be set aside which was tragic for the employee. The appeal would be allowed and the case would be remitted to a different industrial tribunal for reconsideration. The decision on liability stood.

Solicitors: Aaron & Partners, Chester.

Judge will hear jury list applications

Listing Statement: Queen's Bench Jury List

The summons for directions and all subsequent interlocutory applications in Queen's Bench jury list causes should be issued to be heard by the judge in charge of the jury list, Mr Justice Drake stated in a listing statement on February 2.

HIS LORDSHIP said that there was virtually no delay in the hearing of trials or interlocutory applications before a judge in the Queen's Bench jury list. Because trials came on so quickly after setting down it had become the practice for masters, with the approval of the judge in charge of *the jury list, to refer interlocutory* applications after setting down to the judge "if he was willing to hear the application". His Lordship had agreed with the senior master that for an experimental period the practice would be extended. Until further notice the summons for directions and all subsequent interlocutory applications should be issued to be heard by the judge in charge of the jury list.

Miners' payment

Anderson and Others v British Coal Corporation

On a proper construction of the mineworkers' guaranteed week agreement, miners who were laid off without pay because of a strike on the same day by colliery deputies were not entitled to payment under the agreement.

Mr Justice Blofeld so held in the Queen's Bench Division on January 28 when giving his reasons for having dismissed a claim for guaranteed wages by Robert Anderson and four other members of the NUM.

HIS LORDSHIP said the agreement excluded guaranteed payment for miners "who are not working on any day ... by reason of the fact that other persons employed in the undertaking are taking part in a strike". That meant British Coal were entitled to refuse payment when the strike was on the same day as the lay-off.

Fair rate of pay for solicitors

L v L

An allowance of £45 per hour for a partner and £30 per hour for a *legal executive for conducting a* wardship matter for a legally aided client in 1990 was a fair rate of remuneration.

Mr Justice Cazelet, sitting with Mr District Judge White as an assessor, so held in the Family Division on January 29 confirming a taxation of costs conducted by Mr District Judge Segal.

MR JUSTICE CAZELET said that the firm, Baden, Barnes Groves & Co, of Harley Street, London, had sought review of the taxation. They had acted for a client, initially on an emergency legal aid certificate and then on a full legal aid certificate on a wardship matter.

The solicitor stated that the matter was handled thoughout the proceedings by a partner and claimed £60 per hour with some assistance by a legal executive for whose time £50 per hour was claimed.

Mr Distict Judge Segal had been invited to review the taxation but on review did not alter the original allowance of £45 per hour for a solicitor's time and £30 per hour for that of a legal executive.

It had been submitted that a *firm practising in Inner London* had higher overheads than a firm in other parts of London or the provinces. Reliance had been placed on a survey carried out by the West London Law Society in July 1991 of hourly expense rates in civil litigation matters. The survey sought to demonstrate that the average expense rate for a *solicitor practising in a com*parable firm was between £99.35 and £107.17 per hour.

In the court's opinion, the survey was a useful piece of information rather than a single overwhelming factor in the assessment carried out by the District Judge.

In 1990, £45 per hour for a partner had been claimed by the majority of solicitors who had lodged bills of costs for taxation in the Principal Registry. The firms practised in central London and conducted Family Division work. The experience of taxing officers in the Principal Registry comprised a knowledge of rates charged by firms more numerous than the ten firms referred to in the survey.

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هكذا في الأصل

THEATRE page 28
William Brook: his delivery is convincingly doctor-like in an odd piece about pregnancy

ARTS

OPERA page 29
Jonathan Summers as Rigoletto: must the present run be the end for this production?

Better make it snappy

Will they or won't they? The Gold Blend commercials made stars of Sharon Maughan and Anthony Head as the neighbours unsure whether to share a coffee or a bed

Are ads just nasty, brutish and short? Or the perfect art form for a society in a hurry? **Joe Joseph** takes a commercial break

When you scan the entertainment listings and simply feel listless; when you learn that a new 60-second television commercial for British Airways cost £1.8 million to make and was edited from 33 hours' worth of filmed footage, the equivalent of eight *Gone With The Winds*; when film academies garland television ads with arty awards; and when the characters of TV commercials start featuring in their own "novelisations of the ad", you have a right to wonder two things. Is there a major shift in cultural tastes in progress? And are you alone in greeting this with the thought: "Oh, for heaven's sake"?

It is possible you have a short attention span and you also ache to know whether, say, a new crunchier-than-you're-used-to cereal really did turn out to be the best way to start the day. In that case, commercials may be about as perfect an art form as you will find — bar, maybe, staring at postage stamps.

And you would not be alone in your cultural appetites. The average Briton watches up to two-and-a-half hours of commercials each week; over a year, a British viewer sees 5,000 different TV ads, most of them several times over. By the time he is 40, an American has watched one million telly commercials. In Paris, the advertising archivist Jean-Marie Boursicot's six-hour compilation film of 500 commercials, *Night Of The Ad Eaters*, keeps sell-out audiences riveted through all-night showings on the Champs-Elysées.

But now you don't have to watch telly at all to get your fix of commercial culture. From this week you can walk into your local bookshop and pick up *Love Over Gold* by Susannah James. It is the 350-page "novelisation" of the Nescafe Gold Blend coffee commercials. These have been broadcast in 11 instalments over the past five years and made stars of Sharon Maughan and Anthony Head, the courting neighbours who never seem sure whether to share a coffee or a bed. So popular have they been that last December's instalment, in which he finally professes his love for her, earned the kind of tabloid news coverage usually reserved for royals and soap opera stars.

Many film directors, including Ridley Scott, Alan Parker and Hugh Hudson, began in advertising. And lauded film directors — Ken Russell, Lindsay Anderson, Stephen Frears, Karel Reisz, and Peter Greenaway — have directed TV commercials. The British Academy of Film and Television Arts now even dishes out awards to commercials, the way it does to the things that commercials interleave. Hudson, who directed *Chariots Of Fire*, hailed the awards as another step on the telly ad's path to artistic respectability.

"If these awards do one good thing," Hudson declared, "they will silence the critics who think people that make commercials are second-class citizens. I think Ridley Scott, Alan Parker and myself have shown that it is a very good training ground."

This is a cultural view shared by John Hegarty, creative director of Bartle Bogle Hegarty, the agency behind the retro Levi's jeans ads, who felt: "The film industry has realised that people who made the running came out of advertising, not film school."

Those who never doubted that television advertisements have become art in miniature felt vindicated when New York's Museum of Modern Art began displaying a 1980s British Airways advertisement. The ad was called "Manhattan", signalling another milestone in the ad's journey towards art: they now carried snappy titles, as novels and films do, instead of just being called, say, "the new Heineken ad".

> 'The 60-second culture now means shrinking attention spans everywhere'

Daniel Boorstin, the American historian, says "ads inhabit a limbo between fact and fiction". Gold Blend is one of many products that have abandoned the barrow-boy pitch of "pile it high, sell it cheap" in favour of a posher fictional narrative, each new ad resembling a fresh "chapter". Similarly, BT's commercials with Maureen Lipman are a Yiddisher-momma sitcom. The Volkswagen Golf commercials also plumped for the fun-size fiction format with its soignée dame who storms out of an argument (with whom? when? where? why?), tosses away her jewels and her mink, but holds on to her car keys. The Carling Black Label ads have even woven in knowing literary allusions. But only to other ads.

Given the artistic progress commercials have made already, the surprise may be that high-minded admakers have not made an even bigger cultural splash. Still, the swelling artistry of the humble telly ad, blending the status of the novel with the user-friendly compactness of the (very, very) short story, coupled with viewers' desire to see the sequels to the commercials they watch on television, has confirmed the belief of many people in advertising that, were they born today, Tolstoy would be devising television commercials, while Beethoven would be scoring their jingles.

The 60-second culture is shrinking attention spans everywhere. For example, many skilful writers have abandoned the slog of fiction for the speed, and usually better pay, of journalism. Now that *Love Over Gold* has completed the virtuous circle that joins ads and art, we may soon find our best playwrights being sucked into commercials.

Imagine what Harold Pinter might make of the Coke commercial. Perhaps something like the following?

First Man: Coca-Cola is it.
Second Man: Is what? Coca-Cola is what exactly?
(Pause)
First Man: It. Just it.
Second Man: Did I ever see you over by the Vale of Health in Hampstead?
First Man: No.
Second Man: Walking a schnauzer?
(Pause)
First Man: It wasn't me.
Second Man: Or could it have been a French poodle?
First Man: Not a poodle.
Second Man: I can see you with a French poodle.
First Man: Can you?
Second Man: Yes, I can. I can see you with one.
(Pause)
Do you know, I once saw someone walking across the Vale of Health stark naked? Absolutely stark naked and carrying a chicken.
First Man: Have you told me that before?
Second Man: No. I never have. It was a live chicken. What do you make of it? Can't see you with a chicken. But with a poodle, yes. As long as it was French. Now, how would you like it if I punched you?
First Man: I wouldn't.
Second Man: You wouldn't?
First Man: I wouldn't like it.
(Pause)
Second Man: You a bit of a namby pamby, then?
First Man: No.
Second Man: Bit of a namby pamby?
(Pause)
Is that it?
First Man: No. Coke is it.

TELEVISION REVIEW

Black and light and dead all over

Benedict Nightingale enjoys a sardonic comedy from Simon Gray, in which the most urbane of dramatists ventures into unfamiliar territory

Simon Gray, sometimes seen as the bard of the Groucho Club belt, certainly ventured away from his usual patch in the black comedy **Femme Fatale**, shown on BBC 2 last night. It opened in Sicily, with the heroine seeing a would-be suitor killed by her father, and her parents simultaneously killed by him: and then, by some strained logic, the action shifted to rural England. "Apparently over there these things go on with people endlessly shooting each other until goodness knows what," declared Simon Callow's vicar in plummy voice-over. "It couldn't be more different from our little village of Meryton in Devon."

Well, we all know the story of the English lady who, seeing Sarah Bernhart's raging Cleopatra demolish her own palace, remarked to her companion, "how different, how very different, from the home life of our own dear Queen." Imagine a play in which Victoria ran amok through Balmoral, biting the davenports and upending John Brown. That was how Meryton behaved when Sophia Diaz's Maddalena appeared, an exile from Italy and the dewy-eyed wife of Jason Durr's angel-faced but impotent Davey Harty. Devon became Sicily.

Mark you, the signs were there before her arrival. The local garage-owner — a performance from Donald Pleasence that left me wishing we saw more of him — was an accordion-playing Blind Pew who baited and maddened his relatives. In turn, his niece Mary-Jane (Jacqueline Tong) and her husband Algie (James Fleet) sat and watched while he danced over a cliff. That gave the garage to her and provided Gray's plot with the scheming and libidinous Algie.

Gray's view of the West Country seemed to be based partly on the kind of gormless bumpkins you find in Restoration comedy, partly on the novels of Ruth Rendell. There was a lot of genial singing of "Widdicombe Fair" in the Harty grocery store, interspersed with some wonderfully unlikely deaths. Davey's mother had a fatal heart attack, as did Davey himself. Then Davey's father Martin (Colin Welland), mad with desire for Maddy, knifed himself to death, but not before he had prepared a pot of poisoned jam for Algie, whom he rightly saw as a sexual rival. By the end, Meryton's body-count matched Elsinore's.

Here was a paradox. Gray tends to be a melancholy, sardonic dramatist; but the prospect of mega-death put him into a frolicsome mood. Indeed, the tone of *Femme Fatale* recalled that great Ealing comedy, *The Ladykillers*. If the fun was black, it was also light. Gray presented two excellent running jokes. One was Maddalena's combination of innocence and warmth when confronted with male lechery. The more the men chewed their fingernails in agony, the more she sympathised with what she interpreted as their pain at the death of loved ones, and the more frustrated they became. The other joke came from Simon Callow, hilarious as a goodhearted vicar trying his Panglossian best to comprehend the disasters.

The play ended as happily as anything Gray has written, with Callow and Diaz cooing over their baby in what was now her grocery shop, while smiling schoolchildren sang an Italian translation of "Widdicombe Fair". I loved it all.

Dewy-eyed: Sophia Diaz as Maddalena

DONALD COOPER

Last chance: Brian Friel's play Dancing at Lughnasa, a moving, artful, poignant drama now coming to the end of its run

Cinderella has a ball in Cardiff

WELSH National Opera is £65,000 richer thanks to a new award for the arts given by the Vivien Duffield Foundation. The money, which is available for specific projects worth up to £100,000, comes in the nick of time for WNO, whose "Cinderella Project" was in need of a prompt cash injection. The project, which brings together three operas with a similar Cinderella theme, each in a different musical and theatrical style, was chosen by Duffield from ideas submitted by ten British opera companies.

The operas by Massenet (*Cendrillon*), Rossini (*La Cenerentola*) and Maxwell Davies (*Cinderella*) will be staged between November and next spring: *Cendrillon* gets a new production in Cardiff. *La Cenerentola* sets off on the WNO BP Opera Circuit, and *Cinderella* is given a series of performances by children. Each year the Duffield Foundation will pick a different art form and invite bids for money; next year's winner will come from the theatre, with dance and classical music featured in subsequent years.

● MEANWHILE, the Britten-Pears Foundation has announced the second Britten Award for Composition, offered this year for substantial works for ensembles of three to 20 performers. The pieces must have had their first public performance, or broadcast, since January 1983. Closing date for entries is March 31. The winner, who gets £10,000 and a recording of his or her work, will be announced during the Aldeburgh Festival in June. The first Britten Award, in 1990, went to John Casken for his opera *Golem*.

ARTS BRIEFING

Wrong direction

THE Compass Theatre Company, based in Halifax, has announced it can no longer afford its two ten-week national tours this season. Established by Sir Anthony Quayle in 1984 for the specific purpose of touring large-cast classic plays, the company says it will now lie "dormant". The decision to cease touring follows negotiations with the Arts Council. In the past, the council provided a grant for Compass on the condition that it was paid back as soon as the company made a profit. Now, according to Julian Forrester of Compass, the council has imposed a new definition of profit and loss so that any funding given this year would have to be paid back in full before the company's total costs had been covered. The two productions Compass was to have toured were Wycherley's *The Country Wife* and Goldoni's *The Servant of Two Masters*.

Last chance . . .

THE soaring cornfield in Brian Friel's *Dancing At Lughnasa* is as golden as a breakfast cereal advert, and well over two years have gone by since it first blazed at the National Theatre before transferring to the West End. The current publicity puffing it as "the most celebrated play in the world" is something of a come-on, but it certainly is a most moving, artful, poignant drama, and the moment when the sober sisters let their spirits leap in frenzied dancing is an occasion of pure joy. The run at the Garrick (071-344 4444) ends on Saturday.

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LONDON

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kari Knight

NO MAN'S LAND: West End opening of the highly acclaimed Almeida Theatre production of Harold Pinter's play, with the great man himself leading a cast including Paul Eddington, Douglas Hodge and Gawn Grainger. David Leveaux directs
Comedy, Panton Street, W1 (071-867 1045). Tonight, 7pm; then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm

THE INVISIBLE MAN: Truly amazing magical tricks devised by Paul Kiev in this Stratford East transfer: the rather plodding plot said to have been revised.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987). Previews eves, 7.30pm; opens Feb 16, 7pm; then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm

THE BARBER OF SEVILLE: Stephen Unwin's cheery production of Rossini's comic masterpiece is revived at the Royal Opera with Bruce Ford as Almaviva, Thomas Hampson, making his long-awaited Covent Garden debut as Figaro, Jennifer Larmore as Rosina, and Gabriel Bacquier as Doctor Bartolo
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, WC2 (071-240 1066), 7.30pm

SUSANNE STANZELEIT/GUSZTAV FENYO: The first of two concerts covering the complete works for violin and piano by Bela Bartók.
St John's, Smith Square, SW1 (071-222 1061), 7.30pm

VIENNA PHILHARMONIC: The VPO is conducted by Sir Georg Solti in a programme comprising Mendelssohn's Fourth Symphony ("Italian") and Shostakovich's Fifth Symphony.
Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 8800), 7.30pm.

MONUMENTAL REPUTATION: One of the key events in the architect Robert Adam's life was his Grand Tour of 1754-58, during which he made the acquaintance of Diocletian's ruined palace at Spalato. His lavish publication on the subject helped to spread his fame, and its influence on his own work was considerable. This show, marking the bicentenary of Adam's death, chronicles the whole relationship, documents the publication and includes as centrepiece an amazing model of the palace, borrowed from Rome.
The Iveagh Bequest, Kenwood, Hampstead Lane, NW1 (081-348 1286). Mon-Fri, 10am-3.40pm, Sat, Sun, 10am-3.30pm, until Feb 28

REGIONAL

BIRMINGHAM: Gillian Hanna plays the title role in **Big Maggie**, John B. Keane's marvellous creation of a rural Irish matriarch.
Repertory Theatre, Centenary Square (021-236 4455). Opens tonight, 7.30pm; then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs (Feb 18, 25), 2.30pm, Sat (Feb 20), 3pm

BRIGHTON: Nancy Meckler's exceptionally well-directed version of Tolstoy's **Anna Karenina** for Shared Experience, on a nationwide tour.
Theatre Royal, New Road (0273 28488). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 2.30pm.

BURY ST EDMUNDS: Arthur Smith and Chris England's long-running West End comedy **An Evening with Gary Lineker** continues a nationwide tour. Off-field tensions mount in a Majorcan hotel on the eve of England's World Cup semi-final against Germany. Next stop: Theatre Royal, Bath.
Theatre Royal, Westgate Street (0284 769505). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm.

BRISTOL: Many original drawings survive for stately homes in the National Trust's care, and for the gardens and garden buildings that surround them. **An English Arcadia** brings together some 120 drawings made for gardens between 1600 and 1900, some of them normally on show in the houses to which they belong, but most of them hardly ever exhibited. Included are works from the hands of such luminaries as Sir John Vanbrugh, Capability Brown, Humphrey Repton and Sir Edwin Lutyens as well as many lesser lights.
City Museum, Queen's Road, Clifton (0272 223571). Mon-Sun, 10am-5pm, until Feb 28

SOUTHAMPTON: The Nuffield spring season opens with **The Little Foxes**, Lillian Hellman's powerful drama of greed and deceit in a Southern family.
Nuffield, University Road (0703 671771). Preview tonight, 7.30pm; opens tomorrow, 7.30pm; then Mon-Thurs, 7.30pm, Fri, Sat, 8pm, mat Sat (Feb 27), 2.30pm, until Feb 27.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

☐ **BARNUM**: Agreeable showbiz musical, with Paul Nicholas walking the high wire. Bouncy numbers by Cy Coleman and Michael Stewart.
Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (071-580 8845). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. 140mins.

■ **BILLY LIAR**: The Waterhouse/Hall success of 1960 exposed as unbalanced and pretty charmless.
National (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight-Wed, 7.30pm, mat Wed, 2.30pm. 140mins

■ **CAROUSEL**: Joanna Riding and Michael Hayden star in a triumphant revival of the Rodgers & Hammerstein fairground musical.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.15pm. 180mins

☐ **CYRANO DE BERGERAC**: Robert Lindsay looks right as the nasally challenged hero but the production is too bustling to give enough room to the full poignancy of his tale.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm. 180mins.

☐ **DANCING AT LUGHNASA**: Final performances of the Olivier award-winning Abbey Theatre Dublin production of Brian Friel's play (see Briefings, page 27).
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-494 5085). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 150mins

■ **THE DEEP BLUE SEA**: Rattigan's play on infatuation gets into high gear. Strong performances by Penelope Wilton and Linus Roache; exemplary production by Karel Reisz.
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 140mins.

■ **HAMLET**: Kenneth Branagh superb in Adrian Noble's first-class production. Uncut version.
Barbican, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight, tomorrow, 6.30pm. 270mins.

☐ **HAY FEVER**: Very funny performances (not always where you expect) in Coward's excellent comedy.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-867 1115). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 3pm. 150mins.

☐ **AN IDEAL HUSBAND**: Anna Carteret, Hannah Gordon and Martin Shaw in Wilde's "insider dealing" melodrama. Some dated assumptions but stylishly done.
Globe, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 165mins.

☐ **IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY**: Larks in the hospital common room; matron outraged; doctors flummoxed. Ray Cooney farce with lots of laughs.
Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (071-839 4401). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5.30pm. 135mins

☐ **KING BABY**: The miseries of alcoholism and how only religion can help, says author James Robson. Earnest stuff.
The Pit, Barbican Centre, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.15pm. 180mins.

■ **KING LEAR**: Solid, respectable performance by Tom Wilkinson in a low-powered staging by Max Stafford-Clark. With Saskia Reeves, Hugh Ross.
Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Thurs, Sat, 2.30pm. 195mins.

☐ **KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN**: Tremendously glossy production of the Kander & Ebb musical. It coarsens the values of Manuel Puig's novel but Chita Rivera makes a striking vamp.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 160mins

◪ **THE LAST YANKEE**: Subtle and touching Arthur Miller premiere: Zoe Wanamaker, Peter Davison lead a quartet of middle-aged Americans troubled by material success.
Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (071-928 6363). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. 75mins.

☐ **LOST IN YONKERS**: Terrific performance by Rosemary Harris in a Neil Simon comedy more weighty than usual. Maureen Lipman gives good value as a loopy aunt.
Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. 160mins

☐ **MISERY**: Sharon Gless and Bill Paterson in ridiculous but chilling production of Stephen King's thriller.
Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (071-839 4488). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 150mins

■ **LA MUSICA**: Very intense dissection of past love by Marguerite Duras. Harriet Walter's charged performance provides interest.
Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (071-722 9301). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 90mins. 0

◪ **OUR SONG**: Peter O'Toole in Keith Waterhouse's play about a menopausal male's infatuation with a young woman. Neatly done though we only hear the man's point of view.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5070). Mon-Fri, 8.15pm, Sat, 6pm and 8.45pm. 135mins

◪ **RICHARD III**: Ciaran Hinds in Sam Mendes's memorable RSC production.
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (071-867 1150). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2pm. 195mins.

☐ **THE SET UP**: Kerry Shale's *tour de force*, playing all the tough characters in this classic American poem about fixed fighting in Twenties New York.
Gate, 11 Pembridge Road, W11 (071-229 0706). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. 120mins.

☐ **TRAVELS WITH MY AUNT**: William Gaunt, John Wells, Richard Kane, Christopher Gee play all 26 parts in Giles Havergal's marvellous adaptation of Graham Greene's novel.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 140mins.

LONG RUNNERS: ☐ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (071-867 1044) ☐ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . . . ◪ **Cats**: New London (071-405 0072) . . . ☐ **The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)**: Arts Theatre (071-836 2132) ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (071-494 5070) . . ☐ **Five Guys Named Moe**: Lyric (071-494 5045) ◪ **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**: Palladium (071-494 5037) . . ◪ **Les Misérables**: Palace (071-434 0909) . . . ◪ **Miss Saigon**: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400) . . . ☐ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (071-836 1443) . . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) . . . ☐ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . ☐ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information from SWET.

NEW RELEASES

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

◆ **DAMAGE** (18): MP Jeremy Irons pursues destructive affair with his son's fiancée (Juliette Binoche). Riveting version of Josephine Hart's novel, coolly directed by Louis Malle.
Barbican (071-638 8891) **Chelsea** (071-351 3742/3743) **Curzon West End** (071-439 4805) **Empire** (071-497 9999) **Gate** (071-727 4043) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666) **Screen on the Hill** (071-435 3366) **Screen on Baker Street** (071-935 2772)

THE END OF THE GOLDEN WEATHER (PG): Twelve-year-old befriends a simpleton during one halcyon New Zealand summer. Kiwi classic, unevenly filmed by Ian Mune.
MGM Haymarket (071-839 1527) **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148).

FOLKS! (PG): Family problems drive Tom Selleck almost as crazy as his senile father. Horrible, botched comedy, with Don Ameche. Director, Ted Kotcheff.
Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) **Mezzanine** (0426 915683)

◆ **HONEY, I BLEW UP THE KID** (U): Amiable, inoffensive *I Shrunk the Kids* sequel, with Rick Moranis as the accident-prone dad with a 100-feet-tall tot who heads for Las Vegas. Director, Randal Kleiser.
Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) **MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **West End** (0426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

THE PUBLIC EYE (15): Life, times and longings of a tabloid photographer in the Forties (Joe Pesci). Annoyingly artificial. With Barbara Hershey; writer-director, Howard Franklin.
MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Plaza** (071-497 9999) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

CURRENT

◆ **BRAM STOKER'S DRACULA** (18): Gary Oldman as the Transylvanian legend, preying on Victorian London. Visually audacious, but cold to the touch. Francis Coppola directs. With Keanu Reeves, Winona Ryder.
Barbican (071-638 8891) **Camden Plaza** (071-485 2443) **MGM Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Notting Hill Coronet** (071-727 6705) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426 915683) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **Screen on the Green** (071-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

CHAPLIN (12): A skilled impersonation by Robert Downey Jr, but Richard Attenborough's bitty biographical epic never penetrates far inside the man or his career. Stars Dan Aykroyd, Geraldine Chaplin, Anthony Hopkins.
Lumière (071-836 0691) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666) **Odeon Mezzanine** (0426 915683) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

L.627 (15): The Paris police drugs squad's daily routine: stake-outs, violence, paperwork. Vividly filmed by Bertrand Tavernier, though too long for its material. Starring Didier Bezace, Nils Tavernier.
Renoir (071-837 8402)

◆ **RESERVOIR DOGS** (18): A jewel robbery goes haywire. Quirky tale of betrayal, loyalty and violence from bright new talent Quentin Tarantino. Stars Harvey Keitel, Tim Roth and Steve Buscemi.
Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

SWEET EMMA, DEAR BOBE (18): István Szabó's piercing portrait of disordered life in post-communist Budapest: his best film in years, strong performance from Johanna Ter Steege.
Metro (071-437 0757)

TOUS LES MATINS DU MONDE (12): Wonderful, melancholy portrait of French Baroque musicians Sainte-Colombe (Jean-Pierre Marielle) and his pupil Marin Marais (Gérard and Guillaume Depardieu). Also starring Anne Brochet; director, Alain Corneau.
Curzon Mayfair (071-465 8865).

THEATRE: **Benedict Nightingale** finds diagnosis difficult, but the prognosis is fair

Whatever it is, it's not catching

Small Talk About Chromosomes
Bush

MARILYN KINGWILL

Improvising cast: (left to right) Sue Maund, Olivia Dawson, Sophie Vaughan and William Brook

THERE are moments, late in the evening, when *Small Talk About Chromosomes* might almost be mistaken for a a conventional play. A worried-looking couple is sitting at a table, and not far away is an earnest man in a white coat. He is advising them about what, after 22 years of marriage and two adopted children, appears to be a first pregnancy. Do they want to go ahead with a test to determine if anything is wrong with the foetus? Should they ask themselves what they will do if they turn out to be one of the two per cent of over-age parents whose *child has Down's Syndrome or some* other defect? Would they like to go away and think about it all?

It is the sort of scene that must be repeated dozens of times a week in consulting rooms up and down the country. Yet something is different. I don't suppose many doctors play baroque music on a stereo radio while their patients are baring their souls, nor, I suspect, do many women claim that all their male relatives have died of cancer of the uterus. Who has written the more outré sections of the interview? Ionesco, N.F. Simpson, or one of the absurdists of the 1950s and 1960s? The Monty Python people? Or someone with a very skimpy understanding of the male body?

Well, the programme leaves us slightly the wiser. The play, if it can be called a play, consists of "texts found and written by the company"; and the company is the East End-based Theatre Pur, which gets its name from "Purim, a Jewish festival which involves chaotic and fragmentary performances of impromptu plays". What have Lisa Baraitser and Simon Bayly's cast been doing? Spying on marriage guidance centres and fertility clinics, perhaps; and then improvising whatever bits of their collective research they can remember in whatever order takes their fancy.

That would not quite explain the comically sedate dances in which the cast intermittently indulges nor the claim of two women in white coats to be aliens from another planet. There are other things, too, which even a medico who had been seriously unhinged by the decline of the NHS would be unlikely to do or say. But it would help explain what sound like *shards from old encounter groups or* therapeutic talk-ins: a husband moaning about his wife's habit of belching in bed, a wife complaining about her husband's humourlessness, a husband's nostalgia for prostitutes, on the grounds they "make themselves pleasant and smile a lot and don't talk about the problems of the day".

With William Brook invigilating the arguments in the maddeningly measured, understanding voice that some doctors adopt on such occasions, the effect can be quite funny, and quite liberating to those of us who dislike being patronised by the caring classes. But only at the end is there any reason to suppose that the evening has much more purpose than that. The doctor, his inquisition finished, turns on a film projector, and up on a screen come pictures of adults and children playing on the beach and splashing in the sea. That is what all the sexual agonising, all the scientific tests and medical mumbo-jumbo, have been about. Most parents think the aggro worth it.

Voices from the past

The Prisoners Of War
New End, Hampstead

THIS enterprising revival of J.R. Ackerley's play, only its third production in 70 years, stirs disconcerting emotions. *Journey's End*, often revived, is the play that tells us about the first world war, and Ackerley's autobiographical drama, though earlier by half a dozen years, gives us characters who at first sight look familiar. Here is the neurotic captain, the older, pipe-smoking officer, the subaltern still in his teens: the role of Captain Conrad's aitch-dropping servant has been conflated with the Swiss maid — but this is where the disconcertion begins. What are we doing in Switzerland?

These British officers are indeed prisoners but their injuries, though seemingly not grave enough to incommode them, have brought them the relative luxury of internment in a neutral country. The play is set in Conrad's sitting room, with its French windows opening on to a view of the Eiger under a raspberry-red sky that might have inspired a Swiss Munch to paint *The Scream*.

But if the setting is unexpected, how much more so is the nature of the conflict. For this is the first 20th-century play to deal with homosexual love, and how the Lord Chamberlain felt able to license it remains a mystery. The officers express their feelings in a coded language of unfinished sentences and innuendo, but the focus of Conrad's distress is achingly plain, and must surely have been so in 1925. In fact, his remark: "The fair sex? Which sex is that?" is said to have become a cult phrase of the time. Perhaps the Lord Chamberlain supposed the subject was some pre-Pinteresque struggle for occupation of the room, which it is in part but only as a metaphor for sharing hearts.

Second Lieutenant Grayle (a name not lightly chosen) is the object of Conrad's unspoken love, a worthless youth bored by the older man's angry outbursts, but keen to go on availing himself of Conrad's cigarettes and sofa. To bring their relationship to its crisis, Ackerley devises a sturdy plot that integrates a second couple's love affair, just as unacknowledged in words, but imaginatively conveyed by their make-believe aeroplane flight to a happy future.

To give the actors more space — when perturbed, Conrad is required to pace the carpet — Robin Donne's set thrusts the stage diagonally towards the audience. It adds to the sense of feelings longing to burst through conventions. Ken Butler's direction of this fierce play gives it a convincing sense of period and the occasionally misjudged episodes are insignificant.

Though he could be less restrained in some of his paroxysms, Ashley Russell's Conrad, brooding darkly, switching on careful smiles, conveys the tangle of a man trusting to words when only touch will do. Sound performances from, among others, Mark Anstee, Patricia Heneghan, Anna Chancellor.

JEREMY KINGSTON

CABARET: **Tony Patrick** on a comedian whose avoidance of television exposure has not harmed his career

Rambling to the peak

Eddie Izzard
Ambassadors

TO describe stand-up comedian Eddie Izzard as having established a cult following is an understatement along the lines of "Cardiff Arms Park was in a state of moderate excitement after Wales beat England on Saturday". Almost unseen on television, despite ever-increasing offers, this young and original performer has steadily increased his audience to the point at which he can now take over a West End theatre for a month and be relatively confident of filling it every night. Granted it only seats 460, and February *is* the shortest month, but this level of success threatens to attract the adjective "mainstream".

Perhaps in order to counter such a possibility, Izzard is performing in a dress. He is, he maintains in a manner initially suggesting that any argument would be settled outside, *not* wearing women's clothes: "I bought these; they are mine." Not bad taste, either, though I think black is a little harsh for his skin tone — a hint too much of Richard III, given the black tights and low-heel shoes. Having been a transvestite "in private" for some years, he is now determined to wear what he likes where he pleases, and will in future wear on stage whatever he first puts on in the morning. You are warned.

But this, like his own routines, is taking us away from the point, which is that Izzard is a funny, charming, often inspired monologuist. Like the late Frankie Howerd, he appears to be floundering to make sense of what he is saying. Unlike Howerd, I believe he genuinely does make it up as he goes along, allowing an abundantly fertile imagination, a gift for mimickry and a sure understanding of audience reaction to lead him hither and yon.

Standing at the spotlit microphone on a black stage, he is a troll, a subterranean guide to the darker passages of the mind, stopping only to extract the odd nugget of observed wisdom. Sometimes the result is whimsy, sometimes it is too obscure and self-referential to mean anything, but again and again he hits a seam of humour that is fresh and sharp.

How did the voices of James Mason and Sean Connery get in here? Who else but Izzard has driven away door-stepping Jehovah's Witnesses by talking for too long? Has anybody else wondered to such good comic effect what would happen if the Daleks had been able to climb the stairs?

The first-night first half lasted almost two-and-a-quarter hours, and no complaints. On his return he threatened: "In the second half I just sing," and then launched into an exploration of the character of insects; odd behaviour on buses; being British; and, finally, the history of the world. Were all the dinosaurs wiped out by a single meteorite, because they happened that day to have called a meeting, or did they die out because they spoke Latin?

Among other virtuoso ramblers, John Sessions is all technique and no feeling, and Jasper Carrott begins to grate after a while; others again are either boringly obscene or too strident to endure for very long. Izzard's essential humanity and honesty keeps you listening, and laughing. Given the almost cannibalistic nature of his humour, I would be surprised to see him continue at his present level indefinitely: an early trip to the Ambassadors is advisable.

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Hang the expense, this is art

France's greatest museum is aiming to turn itself into the grandest space for visual art anywhere in Europe. John Russell Taylor sees the result

YING YELING LI

Space and light aplenty: looking along the more intimate inner galleries of the newly transformed Louvre

When work on the Grand Louvre is completed (virtually by the end of this year, definitively in three years' time) the amount of space devoted to art in France's greatest museum will be double what it was at the beginning of the project. Clearly, as the notion of the Grand Louvre was launched under the aegis of President Mitterrand in 1981, it is a great benefit to have a head of state on the side of art and culture. Without the president's personal support it is doubtful whether, even in France, the immense funds required for the project would have been forthcoming.

The opening, just before Christmas, of 39 new rooms devoted to the history of French painting in sequence from the beginning of the 18th century to the eve of Impressionism marks a decisive stage in the achievement of the great purpose. Now it is possible, by walking round the top floor of the buildings which surround the old Cour Carrée from the pyramid entry back to the pyramid entry again, to follow the whole history of French art from the primitives right up to the Barbizon School, missing only the really gigantic 19th-century paintings which remain, for practical as well as aesthetic reasons, where they have always been in the lofty red rooms of the Denon wing.

> 'It is a great benefit to have a head of state on the side of art and culture'

The transformation is not complete, since work now in progress on the Richelieu wing, vacated by the finance ministry in 1989, will result in the transfer of the earlier paintings to newly created galleries on the second floor of that, so that the body of French painting can be reached directly from the main escalators now being installed. This is scheduled for November.

Further reorganisation of offices and stores used by the Louvre itself will by 1995-6 liberate the part of the space on the south side of the Cour Carrée looking out over the Seine, so that the galleries in this section, already provisionally reworked, can be totally rearranged in fewer, larger galleries to take more, larger pictures.

The actual fitting out of the new galleries, done by the Milanese Italo Rota as the result of an international competition, is on the whole conservative, aiming at providing a fairly neutral backdrop for the paintings and ensuring they are well lit, rather than trying to make a stylistic gesture of its own. The walls are grey and caramel for the 18th century, celadon green and red for the Romantics and terracotta for Corot.

Throughout the sequence there is an alternation of large rooms for big pictures and more intimate rooms for smaller works, with sometimes a room for related works on paper dropped into the middle. In the main rooms the light is a mixture of natural and artificial, the roof being fitted with adjustable shades so daylight can be moderated, directed or excluded.

All the lists of statistics about the whole Grand Louvre project seem to stay tactfully silent about the cost of it all. But the result, to provide the Louvre with the grandest and (finally) most up-to-date space devoted to fine art anywhere in Europe, while it rehabilitates a monument until recently fallen on hard times, is clearly something felt in France to be worth the expense.

The sheer scale of the Louvre's spaces can be grasped even in the wings that are as yet unreformed, where the idea of a dossier show, usually elsewhere something intimate in a small gallery, can be extended, as at present, to something like the show devoted to Veronese's gigantic *Magic Feast at Cana*, recently cleaned and restored. The picture itself, measuring nearly seven by ten metres, is faced across the gallery by a full-scale x-ray photograph, and the side walls between are hung with other, mostly large paintings related in theme or authorship, while the technical details are expounded in free-standing glass cases. It is difficult to think of any other national gallery which could do such things on this scale.

The extensions to the Louvre are by no means all the recent significant additions to public gallery space in Paris. The general expansion which began in the Sixties with the Centre Pompidou reached a sort of climax in the Eighties with the opening of the Musée d'Orsay. And still it goes on: last year, for instance, saw the reopening of the Jeu de Paume, expensively revamped as a space for contemporary art. In the rue du Montparnasse, the Ville de Paris has created the Espace d'Art Contemporain, while in Les Halles l'Espace Photographique de Paris has joined the already existing Pavillon des Arts among the municipality's ventures.

The implied competition between the national and the local governments in the provision of space for art has had almost universally beneficial effects. It is hard to imagine a similar competition engaged in between the British government and the Greater London Council, even when the GLC still existed. In consequence, Paris is the beneficiary of, for example, two major museums of modern art, the National in the Centre Pompidou and the Parisian opposite the Palais de Tokyo, while London has not yet achieved one entirely devoted to the 20th century.

Photography is recognised by both authorities in a way which in London can be achieved only through the heavy intervention of the private sector. And of course London has nothing to match the plethora of single-artist museums, whether under the wing of the state or of the municipality, or completely private in their financing.

Naturally there is room for disagreement about the details; not everybody in Paris necessarily thinks that the Musée d'Orsay's fusion of gallery and railway station quite works, or is yet wholly reconciled to I.M. Pei's pyramid in the forecourt of the Louvre. But at least there seems to be little disagreement in principle about spending large amounts of public money on the housing of art. If the situation in London is going to change, a whole lot of mental retooling is required first.

LONDON CONCERTS

Partners on the mountain climb

Mutter/Orkis
Barbican

Anne-Sophie Mutter's decision to focus on more recital work is a happy one for her audiences. That way, we enjoy not only the distinctive virtuosity of her violin playing, but the subtlety and intelligence of her programme building and the wit and energy of her regular accompanist, Lambert Orkis.

In her Barbican Celebrity Recital on Friday, in all three pieces, the idea of variation and fantasy was a central imaginative force, and the piano was an absolutely equal partner in the process. In Lutoslawski's 1984 *Partita*, for instance, both violin and piano operate independently of each other in a pair of interludes which separate the three short, continuous movements, and in a free passage for both instruments.

The violin playing here was very much in the emotional key of Mutter's outstanding new recording of Berg and Rihm: scaling the rock face of high, bright areas of tonality, the bow biting on close, tight passage work, and both keyboard and fingerboard ringing with the assault of sudden, hard chords which focused the melodic wandering.

At the heart of Schubert's Fantasy in C Major lies one of his most haunting songs. "Sei mir gegrusst", turning poignantly on its own major-minor pivot, is the subject of a set of variations to which everything else leads and returns. Orkis set up the long, tremulous oscillation which generates the elusive quality unique to this work. Mutter prolonged and sustained its low, uncertain dynamic level for a wonderfully long time before allowing melody to bloom in the dark cello register of her instrument.

Mutter never allows herself beauty of tone for beauty's sake. Most violinists find it almost impossible not to spin this song with fine silver thread, almost disembodied from the instrument which is producing it. With Mutter, though, we hear the tension, the fragility of bow on string, we feel the long stretch of the finger. Her last movement, more pugnacious than truly vivacious, seemed more work than play: play is possibly the one aspect missing from Mutter's musical responses.

Just as Orkis had brought to birth the still, small voice at the centre of the Schubert, so he led the way in the variations of Beethoven's "Kreutzer" Sonata. Mutter gave a performance of austere beauty, challenging ear and mind in its minute examination of the dynamic and harmonic structuring of each rigorously defined movement.

HILARY FINCH

Stern Schubert

Alban Berg Quartet
QEH

After the London Philharmonic's dubious curtain-raiser to the South Bank's Schubert festival, in which minor choral works were unappetisingly offered in quick succession, the Alban Berg Quartet wasted no time in getting to the heart of the matter. At the Queen Elizabeth Hall last Thursday they presented two mature masterpieces of the composer: the String Quartet in G, D887, and everybody's *Desert Island* string quintet, D956 in C (Heinrich Schiff on second cello).

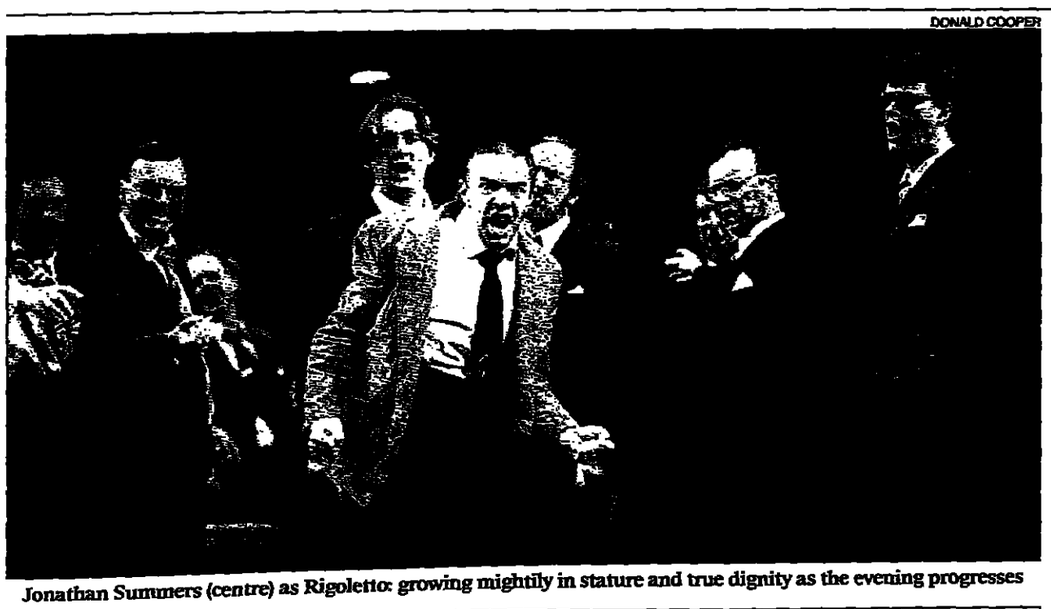
The two works date from the last years of Schubert's life and they both lived in shadow rather than sun. That impression was strongly reinforced by the dour, stern performances. The quartet's immaculate execution is matched by a concentration and austerity that admit little light relief.

The Andante of D887 might have been an opportunity to wind down a notch after the Beethoven-like intensity of the opening Allegro. But the slower movement was heavy with longing, and although this ensemble is undemonstrative to a man, the leader, Gunter Pichler, was so emphatic in his accents that he parted company with his chair more than once. Even the playful, rustic rhythms of the finale were clipped, the movement delivered as though through clenched teeth. There was, finally, a glimmer of a smile, but it was hard won.

It takes more than perfect ensemble to capture the magic of Schubert's modulations, and the expanded quartet proved themselves masters of the art in the C Major Quintet. Here Schubert deploys the sidestepping key-change to devastating effect: an unobtrusive turn affords a breathtaking new vista.

It is touches like this, as well as the nature of the thematic material, that gives the Quintet an aura of serenity. This most phlegmatic of ensembles at last allowed itself the luxury of a hint of self-indulgence. It was not much more than a hint, mind you, but I swear I detected a whisper of portamento in the Adagio.

BARRY MILLINGTON



DONALD COOPER

Jonathan Summers (centre) as Rigoletto: growing mightily in stature and true dignity as the evening progresses

OPERA: Farewell to the Fifties' Verdi?

Let's hope this is just arrivederci

Rigoletto
Coliseum

These performances, the English National Opera's posters shout, are the last ever chance to see the Jonathan Miller *Rigoletto*. After March Verdi is to leave the Manhattan waterfront and bid farewell to the mid-1950s — the period is carefully pinpointed by the curling poster of *From Here to Eternity* on the wall of Sparafucile's dive. Now this is a great pity: there are many productions more expendable in the Coliseum's repertory.

Miller's staging, rehearsed by Henry B. Little, still carries a punch, to say nothing of a mafioso knife. The sets, by Patrick Robertson and Rosemary Vercoe, are cleverly contrasted. The "Duke's" rooftop watering-hole is all art-deco glitter and stocked with every imaginable drink, while Sparfucile's bar is sadly thin on bottles. No wonder he has to do a little part-time killing to make ends meet. The tawdry back street where Rigoletto lives, with its rusting outside fire escapes, could have come straight from an old low-life black and white movie.

As if for an old boys' reunion the ENO has reassembled many of the hands long associated with the production. There is Mark Elder in the pit, conducting with characteristic Verdian verve, especially when vengeance is around the corner and the wind is howling down the alleyways. Arthur Davies, the original Duke of 1982, is back as a casual philanderer, perhaps a bit short of mafia leadership qualities. The tenor is handled more carefully nowadays, especially in the upper register, but Davies gives a fine snap of the fingers before putting a coin into the juke-box — or should it be Duke-box? — and launching into an easy "La donna è mobile".

Jonathan Summers's Rigoletto, hump-backed and club-footed, is at the start a servile toad. But he grows mightily with the opera, achieving true dignity as he rounds on his colleagues in "Cortigiani", with Elder supplying plenty of supporting venom from the pit.

There are a number of outstanding performances in the smaller roles: Richard Van Allan's sinuous Sparafucile, Brian Bannatyne-Scott's sturdy Monterone and a sharp Marullo from Christopher Booth-Jones. Jean Rigby is back as Maddalena, principal attraction at Sparafucile's place.

An apology was made for the indisposition of the one newcomer to the team, Rosa Mannion as Gilda. It was scarcely needed. Mannion, expert in operatic teenagers, played Rigoletto's daughter as an anxious child in her drab, washed-out blue dress. Her tone had all the right silver ripple for "Caro nome" and plenty of volume when experience brings bitterness.

Do we really have to say goodbye to all this? The Coliseum could well consider putting yet another nickel in its nickelodeon.

JOHN HIGGINS

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Further particulars available from:

The Director of Personnel Services, Old Shire Hall, Durham DH1 3HP, tel: 091-374 3140, fax: 091-374 4747, to whom applications (5 copies) should be submitted, including the names of three referees by Friday 12th March, 1993. (Candidates outside the British Isles may submit one copy only.)

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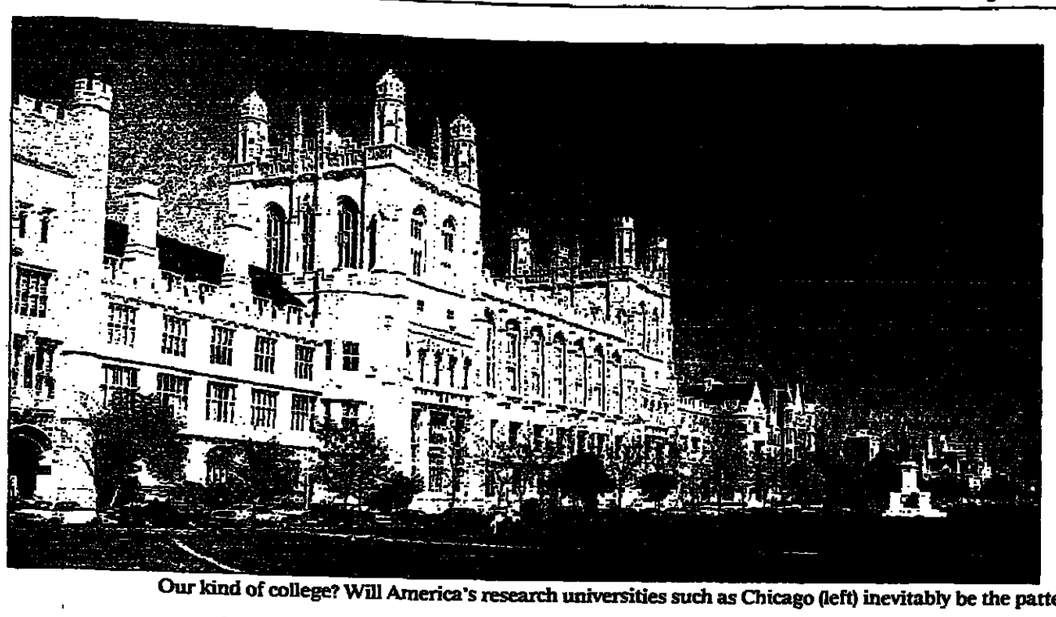
EDUCATION

Instead of building a super-league of universities with relatively few undergraduates, Britain should look to Europe, urges **Peter Scott**



JEREMY YOUNG

Our kind of college? Will America's research universities such as Chicago (left) inevitably be the pattern for the future development of prestige British institutions such as Oxford (right: Christ Church)?

A tale of two knowledge factories

Take two universities: Oxford, more than eight centuries old, and Chicago, which celebrated its centenary two years ago. They are alike in size and reputation: Oxford has 13,000 students, which is big compared to most British universities; Chicago is just over 11,000, tiny by American standards and dwarfed by several near-neighbours in the Mid-West.

Oxford's 19th-century fame as the home of dreaming spires and lost causes is now enhanced by its 20th-century status as a powerhouse of scholarship and science. Chicago, with its 61 Nobel laureates, is sacred academic turf for sociologists, who recall founders of their discipline such as Everett Hughes and surviving grand old men like Edward Shils; for economists (especially those who lean to the free-market right like Milton Friedman, its most famous economics professor); and nuclear scientists (a plaque by the football field commemorates the world's first chain reaction by Enrico Fermi's team).

But the two universities are unalike in tradition and organisation. In a turbulent and diverse America, Chicago has remained peculiarly true to its first president's exhortation to its faculty to be "one in spirit". Its most famous president, Robert Hutchins, pioneered the study of "Great Books" as the core of a liberal undergraduate curriculum. In the fastness of its Old World antiquity, Oxford has abandoned any holistic pretensions and plunged into single-honours specialisation.

Yet in an organisational sense, Oxford retains an integrity Chicago has lost, or never had. Like all British universities, it remains predominantly an undergraduate institution. Fewer than 3,000 of its students are postgraduates. Oxford's research may be internationally renowned, but its laboratories take second place to its colleges.

In Chicago, it is the other way round. Less than a third of its students are in its undergraduate college. The remainder are studying in the four graduate divisions and six professional schools. Chicago awards more MBAs than BAs. And, with its annual output of more than 300 PhDs, it is, in the best sense, a knowledge factory.

The comparison between Oxford and Chicago is telling, and timely because the American "research university", of which Chicago is an atypical but glorious example, is the model towards which Oxford, along with a dozen of Britain's other top universities, is subtly being nudged. Four years ago, the Advisory Board for the Research Councils proposed a tripartite division of higher education: into "research universities", those with some research, and teaching-only (or mainly teaching) universities. After three rounds of research assessment by the Universities Funding Council, the list of winners and losers is beginning to look permanent. Britain's shadow "research universities" already exist. And there are few surprises. They are Cambridge, Oxford, the fragments of London, Edinburgh, and a few others.

Of course, the UFC's successors, the new higher education funding councils in England and Scotland, are planning parallel exercises to measure teaching. The first round of quality assessment will take place later this year. But there is a key difference. Research assessment leads to large resources being channelled towards successful universities; the equivalent teaching assessments, as presently envisaged, will merely pat the worthy on the back and slap the wrists of the unworthy.

Britain's semi-deliberate shuffle towards a "research university" premier division may run into unforeseen difficulties. First, the parallel between American research universities and their British shadows is far from exact, as the comparison of Oxford and Chicago illustrates. Undergraduate education is more central, even in Britain's most élite universities, partly because our secondary schools have avoided the collapse of standards common in many American high schools; and partly because postgraduate education and professional schools are much less developed on this side of the Atlantic.

> 'Foreign models of higher education must be properly understood — and in their national contexts'

Second, American research universities are plagued by doubt. As Chicago's retiring president, Hanna Gray, put it in a recent speech: "The single most serious problem of our universities is their failure to adhere steadily to their purposes."

So there is a danger that just as American research universities are reaffirming their commitment to undergraduate education and faith in the homely virtues of institutional integrity, their British equivalents may be moving in the opposite direction. In his valedictory address to the University of California's regents, another retiring president, David Garder, took special pleasure in his efforts to strengthen undergraduate education by increasing tutorials and seminars and cutting class sizes.

Third, the American liberal arts college, sometimes held up as a model for the "teaching universities" now emerging in Britain as a result of the ravages of research assessment, is difficult to reproduce on this shore of the Atlantic. The difficulty, of course, is money. Famous colleges like Bryn Mawr or Oberlin possess physical and financial resources which few of even our best universities enjoy. To expect a beleaguered college of higher education to emulate their efforts is cruelly absurd.

Foreign models must be properly understood — and in their national contexts. Elements we like cannot simply be stripped out and imported. The allure of the United States, which on even the meanest account must contain at least ten of the world's top 20 universities, is bound to be powerful. Further education colleges too are about to jump on the transatlantic bandwagon, reinventing themselves as community colleges as they slip the local authority leash.

But America is far away, and Europe is close by. Just as we exaggerate, or misinterpret, the merits of American higher education, so we tend to underestimate the achievements of European universities. Universities on the wrong side of the Channel and North Sea are dismissed as overcrowded mass institutions under the thumb of the state, which is generally a gross caricature. Today that is perhaps a better description of our own institutions.

Without turning our backs on America, we need to pay more attention to other European models. Standards are no lower than in Britain. Indeed, a Europe-wide assessment of economics courses gave the highest marks to Erasmus University in Rotterdam.

Swedish universities and colleges have recently been given much greater autonomy; their quango-equivalent of the funding council has been abolished. A powerful government commission has just reported on ways to improve undergraduate education.

Of course, using European rather than American models has policy implications. The most obvious has to do with funding. The favourite panacea of the more gung-ho vice-chancellors is charging for tuition. But while this is not as common in the United States as these enthusiastic privatisers pretend, it is almost unknown in Europe.

● *Peter Scott is professor of education at Leeds University*

Evolution of a new dodo

VIEWPOINT

Ian Gibson

Through the mists of time, evolution has produced a wide variety of species, most of which were dead ends, quite unknown to us.

Homo sapiens may still be going strong, but it does seem appropriate to apply the best traditions of scholarship to some newly emergent species. Homo Patteniens and Neanderthal Marxists are recent additions to the theories of Darwin. Indeed, the latter are the invention of the former.

John Patten has dismissed those who question the government's approach to testing as Neanderthal, and labelled the teachers who dare to contemplate resistance as Marxists. The latest research shows that the Neanderthal Marxist can be found in the living room of the ordinary citizens, in the offices of the Secondary Heads Association and the National Association of Head Teachers, and in many of the senior common rooms of independent schools as well as in the homes of the dinosaurs who are members of the TUC.

It must be worth pausing to consider whether this phenomenon has any scientific, literary, technological or mathematical basis.

For years, teachers have tested; for years they have made judgments of children based on knowledge and integrity.

What have we recently been asked to do? To put into operation a series of tests of which there have been no full-scale national trials. Why is it that educational reforms need so little testing? Teachers are rightly asked to be rigorous in their work. It would be appropriate if the same standards were set by government.

The complete content of the English course has only just been made available to schools. In a country where the prime minister calls for opportunity for all irrespective of race, gender or religion, there must be serious doubts about the content of this anthology.

There has been too little time to prepare pupils.

Another pile of administration has arrived which will take away from our children the precious time of teachers actually teaching in the classroom.

A group of year-10 pupils recently remarked that all these key-stage tests made little difference to their lives in school. Their objectives were the public exams which would take them to work or further or higher education. Other things, they said, were a distraction. The only people who seemed to worry were the teachers. (Perhaps they have spotted the hidden agenda.)

What of the concern that teachers have for children who need considerable support (or for very able pupils)? It is much too simple to assume that testing will provide motivation for success. For some it may, but for the majority, motivation comes from the quality of the curriculum and teaching in the day-to-day lessons.

Teaching Shakespeare to all is not the easiest thing to do. Many schools have had much success, but this may not be the case in the future for many pupils.

One wishes that there were some people in power with the vision to lead by working with those whom they seek to influence or control, rather than merely saying that it was all being done in the name of the parents of this country.

The bureaucrats sit in their sanctuaries refusing to meet the Neanderthal Marxist. If only they would come and talk, it might become clear that revolution is not on the agenda. Can the PTAs, the independent schools, and the heads and governors and teachers all be wrong?

If this is what Homo Patteniens believes, then I suggest that it is an act of monumental hubris, the consequence of which will be all too clear: another evolutionary dead end.

● *The author is head of Parkgate School, Watford.*

How to fill the gap most usefully

Many students have found the year before starting college a fruitful and broadening experience. It can also be of help to people overseas

Helping out: some jobs — such as eye screening in Mongolia — make a valuable contribution to the community

At this time of year, hundreds of school-leavers and students are planning or embarking on a journey abroad during what has become known as the "gap" year.

Many adults now look back on this period as something special, a time when they could break out of their home environment and learn something about other cultures.

The qualities required for overseas work and travel are not too demanding for young people, assuming a basic fitness, spare cash and a willingness to queue at railway stations. The agencies involved now offer a professional service, yet volunteers going off to developing countries still find it hard to get reliable information about the work they want.

Most of those who have charged around the world at 18 find that the experience stays with them for life. But local development agencies cannot be expected to put up, or put up with, school-leavers unless there is some real benefit for them and their clients. Most aid agencies have managed to sidestep the issue, but they may be undervaluing school-leavers. Some of their project partners in host countries already make their own arrangements. The specialised agencies are still mainly confined to traditional areas of work such as formal schools and children's homes, which can put young people off the idea of development work.

The three principal organisations — GAP, Project Trust and Schools Partnership Worldwide — see the problem mainly from the student's and parents' point of view, but they are trying to find more interesting projects. Between them, they now offer places to well over 1,000 young people, although they can accept only half of those who apply. They also organise short courses to ensure that the volunteers are given some preparation.

Most volunteers are recruited through independent schools, but steps are being taken to widen the intake. GAP currently draws 42 per cent of its volunteers from the state system. The rising number of applicants is making demands on all the agencies.

Voluntary Service Overseas, the agency originally involved, stopped using school-leavers 20 years ago on the grounds that they should have some tangible skills to offer. The three "gap" agencies, by contrast, believe that younger students already have valuable skills, and local organisations enjoy having them.

There is evidence that they are right. For example, teachers at a school near Bangalore, in southern India, where GAP sends a small number of volunteers every year, have been delighted with the contribution they can make. Occasionally things go wrong and the volunteers cannot cope, but they say they are happy to put up with assorted British youth — provided they do not dress untidily.

Further north, at a project in Rajasthan, where a well-known rural development agency provides education, drinking water and health services over a wide area, a more ambitious scheme has been set up. A Hertfordshire school sends sixth-formers on regular study visits which involve them as participants as well as observers in the whole process of development.

First rungs: making a little money is part of the "gap" experience

Schools Partnership Worldwide sees grants as essential to its philosophy of aid-giving. Its partners, which include schools, orphanages and homes for disabled children, get a minimum of £1,000 for each pair of students. This sum is raised by schools or parents for specified projects, while the students may receive a small stipend from the host government.

The volunteers, nevertheless, bring a number of important skills. They will be able to teach English, and may be able to act as driver-assistants. Many will have special skills, relevant qualifications, and possibly some 18-year-old common sense thrown in. Some students may also go on to take a development studies course or undertake aid-related activity.

In other words, skilled volunteers, if carefully placed, are not superfluous to the process of development. And since there is a widening pool of young people seeking to use their gap year effectively, it looks as though more thought will go into the matching of skills and needs in the future.

JOHN MONTAGU

Gap Activity Projects, GAP House, 44 Queen's Road, Reading, Berkshire RG1 4BB; Project Trust, Hebridean Centre, Isle of Coll, Argyll PA78 6TE; Schools Partnership Worldwide, 1 Catton Street, London WC1R 4AB.

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35	Ocean Wilson	Transport	
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4,643.00	HSBC	569	+20	...	3.5	23.4
9,283.60	HSBC HK	549	+26	...	3.6	22.6
542.40	Hambros	313	+28	13.8	5.9	13.0
18.50	Joseph (L)	353		15.8	6.0	...
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31.60	Burnsend Bew	152	– 1	4.4	3.9	11.7
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9,418.80	Grand Met	457	+18	13.3	3.6	15.3
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69.30	Hardy Hanson	277	...	7.7	2.8	13.9
3.87	Heavitree A	113	...	3.0	3.7	...
3.86	-do- 'A' LVs	78	...	...	5.2	10.9
326.30	Highland Dist	261	...	6.0	3.1	17.4
2.43	Hosking Bew	42	+ 1	...	...	30.2
326.90	Invergordon Dis	288	+19	6.5	...	10.0
196.50	Macallan-Glen	169	– 5	0.7	0.6	34.1
56.80	Macdon Martin 'A'	418	...	8.8	2.1	20.8
107.60	Mansfield	661	– 1	13.6	2.7	14.6
213.80	Mcolon Thmp	236	+ 4	11.9	5.0	12.7
41.60	Matthew Clark	424	+ 1	15.7	5.0	12.7
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4.40	Paramount	8½	...	...	2.1	15.5
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205.50	Taunton Cider	188	+ 5	...	3.4	17.6
319.90	Vaux Group	232	+ 4	9.3	5.4	16.0
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42.60	Galliford	48	+ 1	4.3	11.9	10.3
1.36	Gibbs & Dandy	78	...	...	...	...
703.30	Gleeson (M.J)	705	– 2	12.7	2.4	10.4
178.70	Hewden-Stuart	99½	+ ½	3.1	4.4	20.1
3.28	Hewetson	38	...	2.6	...	37.3
1.94	Hey & Croft	16	...	...	...	...
120.00	Heyrod Wtn	206	– 4	12.8	8.1	18.9
27.70	Higgs & Hill	63	+ 1	9.0	...	9.6
12.80	How Gp	31	+ 3	2.5	...	10.7
4.77	Howard Hldgs	19	...	0.5	3.5	...
125.20	Hunck Johnsn	70	+ 2	6.0	...	...
3.85	Jarvis	15½	...	0.5	...	...
108.10	Laing (J)	218	+13	9.0	5.5	11.3
16.30	Lilley	79½	...	3.8	...	3.4
7.08	Lo Clydesidge	78	+ ½	4.5	7.7	29.4
12.10	Lovell (Y)	14½	+ 1½	...	...	6.6
100.40	Manders	280	+ 5	7.0	3.3	19.5
302.10	Marley	107	+11	4.3	5.3	27.0
87.00	Marshalls	72	+ 8	...	9.3	24.1
32.00	Maunders (J)	130	+ 7	4.9	5.1	11.9
78.50	Mcalpine (A)	139	–24	10.3	...	9.7
18.30	McCarthy & S	26	– 1	0.5	6.1	...
323.10	Meyer Int	306	+24	18.5	6.7	33.6
1.31	Mitchn Cpe	4	...	...	...	...
83.00	Mowlem (J)	77	+11	10.5	...	...
12.70	NSM	74	– 2	...	...	8.3
181.80	Newman Tnks	126	+19	...	8.4	...
236.90	Pendlmmons	244	+19	...	4.7	20.1
3.61	Phoenix Timber	25	...	...	...	...
15.30	Pochins	1475	...	29.0	2.7	8.9
55.80	Prowting	87	+ 3	3.4	5.2	...
3.63	Quilligotte	5	...	...	...	...
1,163.40	RMC Gp	996	+21	20.0	4.5	22.2
201.80	Raine Ind	107½	– ½	6.0	7.4	18.0
3.16	Rasmus	28	– 2	...	...	...
2,284.80	Redland	477	+24	25.0	7.0	20.7
10.80	Ronlet	72	...	4.3	8.0	9.6
689.10	Rugby Group	226	+28	6.4	3.6	17.8
3.45	Sviffd-Exe	33	...	...	...	5.9
15.50	Sharpe & Fisher	75	+ 1	4.0	7.1	...
32.40	Sheffield Inst	135	...	5.4	5.3	34.9
9.34	Sheriff Hldgs	29	+ 6	...	3.0	12.3
2.85	Shorco	83	+15	...	8.4	12.8
23.00	Smart (J)	228	+ 6	8.5	5.0	10.4
15.10	Stemelin	4½	– ½	0.5	8.9	5.4
855.20	Tarmac	114	+ 4	5.5	6.4	47.1
41.80	Tay Homes	191	+21	5.8	4.1	10.5
321.60	Taylor Woodrw	77	+ 2½	9.5	...	10.9
177.80	Tilbury Dougls	526	+37	33.0	8.4	17.5
2.22	Torex Hires	22	...	...	2.5	...
180.20	Travis Perkins	186	+11	8.0	5.7	26.3
13.40	Try Group	31	...	6.0	...	4.2
3.06	Tudor	28	...	...	...	...
26.20	Wimpleart	37	– 3	3.6	8.4	10.5
17.30	Ward Hldgs	33	+ 8	0.5	...	...
0.83	Waterhouse	33	...	...	...	...
93.20	Watts Blake	448	–22	9.3	2.8	23.3
0.95	Wescol	9	...	...	...	...
76.50	Westbury	115	+ 9	...	5.6	...
2.59	West Scffldsh	5	...	...	...	...
0.79	Wiggins	3	...	...	...	...
306.10	Wilcon Homes	397	+ 4	8.7	2.9	20.4
331.30	Wilson (C)	175	+20	3.9	3.0	27.8
406.60	Wimpey G	141	+12	...	5.0	54.2
3.43	YRM	26	– 3	4.0	...	2.9

BUSINESS SERVICES

579.00	ADT	360	+15	...	...	...
9.54	Adam & Harvey	228	+ 5	11.0	6.6	3.5
6.47	Air London	73	+ 1	...	9.4	9.0
1.31	Atkins Lakes	17	...	2.0	12.2	7.4
155.50	Auto Sec	137	– 5	4.8	4.8	11.1
980.90	BET Ord	105	+ 6	...	8.3	15.4
16.90	BMB Res	70	+ 6	4.0	9.3	8.2
80.20	BPP	315	+ 3	10.0	3.2	22.2
44.80	Barbour Index	209	– 1	7.2	3.6	20.0
13.60	Bourgeod	10	...	0.7	5.8	32.7
50.30	Brk Data Mgt	216	+ 6	...	2.5	18.0
1.91	Broadcastdve	12	...	...	...	...
6.97	Brooks Service	18	...	0.0	...	18.5
46.80	CKT Gp	99	–11	2.4	3.6	10.1
69.20	Capita Group	442	+ 8	5.6	1.2	24.5
27.20	Casket Plc	54	...	0.5	2.0	12.9
46.60	Chiltern Capital	52½	+ ½	...	...	...
6.56	Christie	28	...	...	...	...
717.90	Chubb Sec	257	+ 5	...	1.5	28.4
1.60	Comacc	25	...	...	...	...
2.90	Corp Services	9½	...	...	...	...
10.90	Dart	69	+ 8	3.3	6.4	7.8
172.60	Davis Service	204	+ 6	7.9	5.2	15.5
5.37	EW Facia	100	+ 1	...	5.7	7.4
14.50	Gardner	17½	– ½	1.3	12.8	4.2
6.91	Gardner (DC)	29	...	...	...	...
969.80	Hays	241	– 1	4.6	2.5	23.7
150.40	Hogg Robinsn	218	+ 4	6.3	3.9	16.4
28.60	Holmes Protectn	65	...	...	...	...
4,252.10	Hunt Wtsmp	142	+ 2	...	...	15.3
440.70	ISS B DKr	£1109	+325	...	1.0	15.6
2,986.60	Inchcape	583	+15	12.5	2.9	26.8
150.30	Johnson Clean	787	+ 4	25.7	4.5	16.0
94.80	Lep	109½	...	...	...	...
24.20	Mitie Gp	233	– 5	2.7	1.6	19.1
860.20	Manpower	1156	+252	...	...	...
26.00	Michael Page	43½	+ ½	1.8	5.5	12.1
11.20	Pennsa	250	...	...	1.1	63.3
2.03	Prime People	2½	...	...	...	...
66.90	Proudfoot Alex	108	...	19.5	24.1	2.3
45.20	RCO	422	...	12.8	4.5	14.1
10.00	RSA	118	...	4.0	4.5	...
33.30	Reed Executive	65	+ 1	...	...	30.2
32.30	Reliance Secs	144	+ 1	...	4.2	14.5
1.19	Renaminister	4	...	...	...	...
2,126.50	Rentokil	219	– 2	1.6	1.0	32.2
13.80	Rolfe & Nolan	265	+ 5	6.2	3.4	16.4
1,117.20	Salvesen (C)	389	+20	7.0	2.4	20.1
2.06	Scot Pickford	31	+ 2	...	3.4	8.5
41.20	Securicgard	201	...	9.4	6.4	...
10.80	Select App	5	...	...	...	...
87.40	Sterco Gp	250	+ 5	11.9	2.1	26.4
15.60	Sherwd Group	155	...	...	2.1	14.9
70.80	Sterchley	122	– 3	3.0	3.3	14.8
81.40	Warner Howrd	345	+ 4	5.9	2.3	19.5
18.70	Weipac	42	– 3	0.6	1.9	...
16.30	Wilts Gp	22	+ 2½	0.1	0.6	28.2

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

628.30	Allied Colloids	240	– 2	3.9	2.2	19.1
357.20	Amersham	687	+ 1	12.5	2.4	25.5
18.20	Anglo Dld	9½	...	0.8	...	...
5,310.10	BASF Dm	9300	+437½	...	...	...
238.70	BTP	255	+ 9	8.8	4.6	18.6
7,456.50	Bayer DM50	£113½	+190½	...	5.0	...
67.90	Blagden	146	...	9.5	8.7	10.5
101.90	Brent Chems	151	+ 3	7.3	6.3	71.4
86.40	Br Bio-Tech	122	+ 6	...	...	...
14.60	Caird Gp	25½	+ ½	2.5	13.5	6.4
42.60	Canning (W)	151	+13	7.2	6.4	12.1
2,297.70	Courtaulds	593	+16	13.0	3.0	15.6
343.90	Croda	263	+21	7.5	3.0	48.7
159.50	Ellis & Everard	194	+ 3½	7.0	4.8	17.7
4.79	Euro Colour	16	...	0.6	5.4	...
97.40	Evode	134	+ 4	3.5	3.6	...
83.50	Halstead (J)	281	+ 3	...	2.8	15.0
380.80	Hickson	220	+12	7.8	4.7	14.0
6,415.50	Hoechst	1108½	+25½	...	7.3	...
8,061.10	ICI	1128	– 4	38.0	6.3	27.2
1,005.40	Laporte	652	+12	18.9	3.9	17.5
199.90	Leigh	221	+12	7.8	4.7	18.0
14.30	MTM	16	+ 2½	1.8	...	3.2
3,286.30	Norsk Hydro	1660	+100	...	2.1	...
97.60	Paterson Zoch	400	+ 9	11.4	3.8	17.3
85.30	-do- 'A'	371	...	11.4	4.1	16.0
138.90	Pirsu	293	+ 1	6.0	2.7	19.7
2.77	Wessums	27	...	...	...	6.6
297.20	Wicks	98	+ 6	...	...	...
4.55	Wld of Leather	56	...	...	...	65.9
49.70	Wyevale	162	+ 2	...	3.1	18.0
4.34	Xtra-vision	2½	...	...	...	2.7

DRAPERY, STORES

22.30	Alexon	77	+12	...	5.2	4.2
51.10	Amber Day	44	– 5	3.1	9.4	12.1
815.10	Argos Plc	275	–19	6.4	3.1	19.1
190.20	Ashley (Laura)	81	...	0.1	0.2	...
237.80	Asprey	298	+ 5	...	2.2	26.2
5.20	Austin Reed	198	– 2	6.0	6.7	57.6
69.40	Beattie (J) 'A'	150	...	5.7	5.1	14.3
45.30	Bentalls	108	...	3.8	4.8	60.9
269.80	Betterware	265	+27	...	0.6	36.5
8.80	Blacks Leis	27	...	1.3	...	5.6
265.80	Body Shop	472	+ 1	1.6	...	18.4
56.10	Brown & Jackson	12½	...	...	...	...
263.50	Brown (N)	361	+19	6.0	2.3	22.4
1,020.20	Burton	73	+ ½	...	3.7	...
22.20	Cannons	138	...	2.6	2.6	18.3
32.90	Church	305	...	12.5	5.1	25.1
15.40	Clinton Cards	113	+ 8	3.7	4.4	...
1,282.50	Costs Vyella	224	+ 5	7.0	4.2	25.7
18.00	Colourvision	80	– ½	...	...	15.0
98.30	Courts Furnish	401	+ 8	5.0	1.7	20.2
1.84	Crown Eyes	115	–20	...	7.0	5.3
1,552.80	Daisy Farm Intl	94	+ 2	...	...	15.2
70.50	Dewhirst (JJ)	57	+ 2	0.7	1.7	18.9
884.00	Dixons Grp	225	+ 4	6.0	3.6	26.5
639.30	Dunhill	376	– 1	7.7	2.7	13.0
12.00	ERA Gp	21	...	...	...	10.7
5.82	Elys (Wimbldn)	485	+ 5	16.0	4.4	10.8
11.00	Ellece Fnsn	96	+ 2	...	3.8	19.2
138.10	Enson	213	...	6.6	4.1	19.0
411.00	Fine Art Dev	517	+ 8	11.0	2.8	19.8
2.56	Fired Earth Tiles	45	...	4.0	...	29.9
15.30	Formfitter	498	...	12.5	3.4	10.4
5.87	French Conn	37	...	...	...	...
3.40	Gehlbicke	29	– 2	...	9.2	5.8
17.30	Gieve Gp	212	+ 3	2.0	2.6	14.1
8.55	Goldsmiths Gp	39	+ 1	1.8	...	5.6
157.70	GUS	2530	+105	40.0	2.1	20.0
3,950.90	-do- 'A'	1635	+62	40.0	3.3	20.0
4.55	Hampden Grp	38	– 2	...	2.0	5.4
260.90	Harrisons	255	+ 8	...	2.3	13.6
22.60	Helene Pic	29	+ 1	2.0	11.4	10.3
1.59	Heritage	36	...	...	...	...
3.25	Honeysuckle	40	+ 3	...	3.3	6.7
1.75	Hse of Fraser	143	...	10.3	9.6	21.7
6.08	Jacques Vert	64	+ 2	2.0	...	...
2,629.70	Kingfisher	527	–21	13.0	3.3	15.8
22.60	Leslie Wise Gp	65	+ 2	4.0	8.2	10.9
110.10	Liberty	665	–12	7.2	1.4	45.1
347.20	Lloyds Chem	183	+12	5.5	3.0	11.6
819.30	MFI	141	+16½	...	4.3	15.8
9,418.70	Marks Spencer	342	+28	7.1	2.8	20.8
299.10	Menzies (John)	466	+ 5	10.0	2.9	16.6
22.90	Moss Bros	117	+ 6	3.8	4.9	28.4
537.90	Next	145½	+ ½	8.7	6.3	20.7
4.55	Oliver (G)	18	– 2	1.0	...	...
110.70	Ortdlume Ind	215	...	...	5.6	14.0
73.40	Peacocks	51	– 1	2.7	7.2	6.0
104.50	Ps Fldgs	127	– 3	4.3	5.3	21.9
48.40	Rainers Group	16½	+ 1½	2.4	19.4	...
17.40	Rhino Grps	34½	+ 7	...	...	...
186.10	Sherwood Gp	160	...	...	1.9	15.4
1,551.20	Sears	106	+ 1	3.2	3.0	28.3
1,151.80	Smith WH 'A'	425	+ 9	13.4	4.2	14.8
2.02	Specialeyes	13	– ½	...	...	...
837.20	Storehouse	204	– 2	5.0	3.3	...
122.00	T & S Stores	191	+ 2	5.5	3.8	12.4
47.80	Tie Rack	93	...	3.7	4.0	...
99.40	Time Products	189	– 1	7.5	5.3	18.5
5.89	Usher (Frankie	80	...	...	8.3	7.8
15.40	Vinvi	28	...	...	...	77.3
2.77	Wensums	27	...	...	...	6.6
297.20	Wickes	98	+ 6	...	...	...
4.55	Wld of Leather	56	...	...	...	65.9
49.70	Wyevale	162	+ 2	...	3.1	18.0
4.34	Xtra-vision	2½	...	...	...	2.7

ELECTRICALS

18.80	AB Elect	66	...	...	...	...
253.80	ACT Group	180	+12	4.5	3.3	17.7
33.70	Acal	233	+10	...	3.3	19.5
84.60	Acom Comps	127½	+20½	...	...	...
44.80	Admiral	415	+ ½	...	4.8	11.5
53.70	Alba	116	...	...	4.7	9.5
5.27	Alphameric	20½	...	...	...	...
139.50	Amstrad	24	...	0.4	2.2	...
26.60	App Helio	128	+ 3	...	...	...
5.12	Arlen	17	...	...	...	...
138.50	Astec	45	– 2	...	...	...
26.40	Bemlex Hunter	29½	+ ½	9.2	4.6	14.2
5.83	Barrmatt & Foxtr	9½	...	...	...	...
1,242.10	BICC	371	+ 5	19.2	5.9	21.6
140.10	Blick	565	+42	9.2	2.2	21.8
397.60	Borland's	1400	...	...	...	...
458.90	Cawthorpe	285	+10	6.0	3.8	19.5
26,118.90	BT	422½	+15½	14.4	4.5	15.4
6,654.40	BT New	317½	+19½	14.4	4.5	15.4
2.02	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	7½	+ ½	0.1	1.7	...
44.20	Burndicld	139	+ 6	...	5.0	18.5
7,783.30	Cable Wireless	718	+17	13.2	2.5	22.2
31.60	Chloride	13½	+ ½

REPORTING THIS WEEK

Lower debt provision likely to boost Lloyds

IN A week when a number of blue chip companies report, **Lloyds Bank** will kick off the high street banks' reporting season on Friday after a year that has seen many adopt strict cost controls to help combat the recession.

Michael Lever, banking analyst at Smith New Court, is looking for final pre-tax profits of £760 million, assuming the release of Third World debt provisions of £112 million. This compares with last time's profit of £645 million. Market forecasts range from £600 million to £800 million. A net dividend of 18.4p (16.7p) is anticipated.

Lloyds, which is now headed by Sir Robin Ibbs, is expected to be one of only two banks to see bad debt provisions fall. Excluding Third World provisions, Mr Lever expects bad debts to decline to about £840 million (£938 million). Lloyds will also be the only bank where operating profits before bad debts fall, with a decline in net interest income expected to lead to pre-provision profits dipping to £1.46 billion (£1.52 billion).

On the table: profit rise for Reuters' Sir Christopher Hogg

TODAY

First-half profits at **John Menzies**, the Edinburgh newspaper retailer and wholesaler, should benefit from the sale of its loss-making Hammicks retail business. NatWest Securities expects interim pre-tax profits to recover to £4 million (£2.1 million), with forecasts ranging from £3 million to £4 million. Sales are expected to have risen between 7 and 10 per cent.

Interims: Black (Peter) Holdings, Bryant Group, Menzies (John), US Smaller Cos Inv Tst.
Finals: EFM Java Trust, Hafslund Nycomed.
Economic statistics: Credit business (December), cyclical indicators for the UK economy (January — first estimate).

TOMORROW

Reuters Holdings, the international news and information group headed by Sir Christopher Hogg, chairman, and Peter Job, chief executive, is expected to report a healthy 13 per cent advance in full-year profits. Pre-tax profits are expected to rise to £385 million (£340 million), according to NatWest Securities. Market forecasts range from £380 million to £407 million. A net dividend of 19.5p (17p) is expected. Reuters' cash pile is likely to grow from £500 million to about £668 million and there will be speculation on the group's next strategic move.

Interims: Fleming Enterprise Investment Trust.
Finals: Ericsson (LM), Manchester Ship Canal, News International, P&P, Reuters Holdings.
Economic statistics: Producer price index numbers (January).

WEDNESDAY

Lloyds Abbey Life, the life insurer and financial services group that is 60 per cent owned by Lloyds Bank, is expected to report lower 1992 profits, but recovery is hoped for in 1993. Analysts expect Lloyds Abbey, which includes the loss-making Black Horse estate agency business and the Lloyds Bowmaker Finance unit, which specialises in consumer credit, to report a decline in final pre-tax profits from £306 million to between £285 million and £300 million. However, this year should see the stirrings of a recovery in profits, with forecasts ranging from £315 million to £350 million-plus, depending on the timing and strength of recovery.

Interims: Bailey (CH), Benson Group, Elbief, Kakuzi, Throgmorton 1,000 Smallest Cos Tst.
Finals: Brabant Resources, Kakuzi (N), Kleinwort Overseas Inv, Lloyds Abbey Life, Scottish American Inv.
Economic statistics: Index of production for Scotland (third quarter).

THURSDAY

First-quarter profits at **BOC Group**, the industrial gases and healthcare group, should benefit from the weakness of sterling and strong sales in the group's healthcare and industrial gases operations.

Philip Morrish, at Smith New Court, is looking for first-quarter pre-tax profits of £88 million, against £80 million last time. Market forecasts range from £87 million to £93 million. Mr Morrish expects full-year profits to advance to about £380 million (£339.1 million).

British Petroleum should report a solid fourth quarter, but full-year historic cost net income is forecast to drop to £475 million (£415 million), according to UBS Phillips & Drew. Market forecasts range from £405 million to £555 million. P&D predicts a net dividend of 10.5p (16.8p).

Interims: BOC Group (Q1), British Telecom (Q3), Industrial Control Services, Louis Newmark, Pantheon Intnl Part, Symonds Engineering.
Finals: British Petroleum, City Merchant High Yield, Crest Nicholson, Drayton Far Eastern Trust, Finsbury Smaller Cos, General Cons Inv Tst, Lonrho, River & Mercantile Trust.
Economic statistics: Employment, unemployment, earnings, prices and other indicators, capital issues and redemption (January), capital expenditure by manufacturing industries (fourth quarter — provisional).

FRIDAY

Finals: Alexanders Holdings, Anglo & Overseas Tst, Lloyds Bank.
Economic statistics: Usable steel production (January), retail prices index and tax and price index.

PHILIP PANGALOS

GILT-EDGED

Five steps to financing PSBR

Hardly a day goes by without concern being raised over the size and financing of the PSBR. The market consensus is for a 1993-4 deficit of £45-50 billion, which is likely to be close to the actual result. Great uncertainty remains over the its financing, given the demand-supply gap in the gilt market. The government is likely to take a five-pronged approach to meet the financing requirement.

☐ **UK institutions:** The past few years have seen a greater proportion of institutional cash flow allocated to gilts, but even during the funding crisis of the 1970s, the maximum allocation amounted only to 50 per cent of new cash flow.

If this occurred for the forthcoming financial year, UK institutions could help contribute further to meeting the requirement. However, this is likely to be meaningful only if there is a noticeable shift in expected relative returns between gilts and other asset categories. The impact of low interest rates on property returns and projected company earnings suggests the contrary is likely to be the case, and £15 billion appears realistic from the UK institutions.

☐ **Foreign currency:** A foreign currency borrowing programme would contribute to the gilt-funding requirement when converted through official reserves into sterling. However, having spent the proceeds of that borrowing, a foreign currency liability remains on the balance sheet.

So, although actual reserves remain unchanged from pre-borrowing levels, underlying reserves will fall by the amount borrowed. If the authorities are more comfortable about the level of reserves, they will be more likely to borrow abroad. We look for about £10 billion of foreign currency borrowing in 1993-4.

☐ **Underfunding/monetary sector gilt purchases:** A return to the underfunding that existed before the rule change in 1985 would help to change the funding arithmetic dramatically. However, there is concern that bank and building society purchases of government debt produce inflation risks. A change in the full funding rule rather than a return to underfunding could help to calm those fears.

In the past fiscal year, banks and building societies bought only £1.6 billion of gilts compared with £1.5 billion so far in the current fiscal year. However, short-term interest rates appear destined for at least 5 per cent, which will help ensure a steep sloping yield curve from money rates outwards into the shorts.

The introduction of the BIS capital requirements will help to facilitate demand, as it makes government bonds more attractive relative to loans and adds to the attraction of a positive shaped yield curve which should see the monetary sector effectively recycling the private sector deposit base into grateful government hands. We see potential for gilt sales of about £10 billion to the monetary sector, which would add only about 2 per cent to M4 and still leave M4 in the targeted range.

☐ **Tax changes and gilt Peps:** The cut in dealing rates to 6 per cent has made it difficult for building societies to offer depositors attractive rates. Savings accounts now yield about 3.5 per cent net. The societies are trying to package alternative, relatively risk-free investments through equities and bonds. To encourage retail interest in gilts, the Chancellor could offer tax incentives.

☐ **Foreign buyers:** Nominal yields are not really competitive compared to Europe, but with the downward interest rate cycle yet to reach a mature stage there is scope for further capital gains in the second quarter. This, however, could be less of a feature as the year goes on. The unattractiveness then could be compensated by a firmer pound as the recent slide has left sterling cheap against European currencies. A weak but stable exchange rate is *ideal* for attracting foreign interest in the gilt market and about £8 billion is likely from foreigners.

Overall, this combination of factors should greatly alleviate the funding pressure.

MIKE GALLAGHER
ANDRE DE SILVA
IDEA

1993 GILT FUNDING

Net Gilt Funding Requirement	**£45bn**
UK institutions	£15bn
Foreign currency borrowing	£10bn
Underfunding/ Monetary Sector Gilt Purchases	£10bn
Tax Changes and Gilt Peps	£2bn
Foreign buyers	£8bn
Total	£45bn

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock Outstanding (£million)	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
	SHORTS (under 5 years)				
1,100	Treas 12½% 1993	102[illegible]	−[illegible]	12.14	5.61
600	Fund 6% 1993	100[illegible]	+[illegible]	5.99	5.51
1,065	Treas 13¾% 1993	106[illegible]	+[illegible]	12.94	5.48
2,100	Treas 8½% 1994	102[illegible]	−[illegible]	8.26	5.43
550	Treas 14½% 1994	109[illegible] †	+[illegible]	13.27	5.45
1,100	Exch 13½% 1994	109[illegible]	+[illegible]	12.35	5.54
1,900	Treas 10% 1994	105[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.47	5.56
1,240	Exch 12½% 1994	110 †	+[illegible]	11.36	5.64
1,900	Treas 9% 1994	105[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.53	5.65
2,350	Treas 12% 1995	111[illegible]	−[illegible]	10.78	5.80
214	Gas 3% 1990-95	96[illegible]	−[illegible]	3.11	4.52
2,500	Exch 10¼% 1995	109[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.35	5.92
840	Treas 12¾% 1995	116[illegible]	+[illegible]	10.92	6.04
770	Treas 14% 1996	120[illegible]	+[illegible]	11.63	6.28
1,150	Treas 15¼% 1996	125[illegible]	+[illegible]	12.17	6.41
800	Exch 13¼% 1996	119[illegible]	+[illegible]	11.06	6.41
3,409	Conv 10% 1996	111[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.99	6.56
1,290	Treas 13¼% 1997	122[illegible]	+[illegible]	10.83	6.69
3,700	Exch 10½% 1997	113[illegible] †	+[illegible]	9.28	6.68
5,550	Treas 8¾% 1997	107[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.12	6.71
830	Exch 15% 1997	131[illegible]	+[illegible]	11.38	6.94
3,850	Exch 9¾% 1998	111[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.72	6.87
	MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)				
2,100	Treas 7¼% 1998	102[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.14	6.70
1,100	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	100	−[illegible]	6.75	6.73
985	Treas 15½% 1998	137[illegible]	+[illegible]	11.29	7.29
3,909	Exch 12% 1998	121[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.90	7.38
1,900	Treas 9½% 1999	110[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.57	7.19
3,050	Exch 12¼% 1999	122[illegible]	−[illegible]	9.98	7.52
1,252	Treas 10½% 1999	115[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.08	7.33
1,798	Conv 10¼% 1999	114[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.92	7.40
4,158	Conv 9% 2000	108[illegible] †	+[illegible]	8.29	7.39
3,171	Treas 13% 2000	128[illegible]	+[illegible]	10.13	7.88
4,606	Treas 10% 2001	112[illegible] †	+[illegible]	8.88	7.84
970	Treas 14% 1998-01	128[illegible]	+[illegible]	10.90	7.38
5,777	Treas 9¾% 2002	111[illegible] †	+[illegible]	8.78	8.05
2,800	Treas 8% 2003	25[illegible]	−[illegible]	8.00	7.98
2,503	Treas 10% 2003	112[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.90	8.21
1,620	Treas 11½% 2001-04	119[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.63	8.16
443	Fund 3½% 1999-04	70[illegible]	+[illegible]	4.95	7.31
3,012	Conv 9½% 2004	108[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.77	8.36
4,842	Conv 9½% 2005	108[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.78	9.39
2,200	Treas 12½% 2003-05	126[illegible]	−[illegible]	9.85	8.56
2,000	Treas 8% 2002-06	97[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.23	8.35
3,150	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	121[illegible]	−[illegible]	9.71	8.16
2,997	Treas 8½% 2007	100	+[illegible]	8.50	8.49
1,250	Treas 13½% 2004-08	133[illegible]	−[illegible]	10.10	8.66
	LONGS (over 15 years)				
4,321	Treas 9% 2008	103[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.66	8.53
1,300	Treas 8% 2009	94[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.44	8.58
2,923	Conv 9% 2011	102[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.75	8.67
4,600	Treas 9% 2012	102[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.76	8.69
1,000	Treas 5½% 2008-12	72[illegible] †	+[illegible]	7.63	8.42
700	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	91[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.44	8.57
1,000	Exch 12% 2013-17	128[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.31	8.90
5,000	Treas 8¾% 2017	99[illegible] †	−[illegible]	8.94	8.78
	UNDATED				
359	Consols 4%	45[illegible]	−[illegible]	8.81	...
1,909	War Ln 3½%	39[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.79	...
122	Conv 3½%	62[illegible]	−[illegible]	5.62	...
276	Consols 2½%	29[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.37	...
475	Treas 2½%	28[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.77	...
	INDEX-LINKED				
500	Treas IL 2% 1994	133[illegible]	+[illegible]	...	0.90
1,350	Treas IL 2% 1996	197[illegible]	+[illegible]	1.60	2.30
500	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	108[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.33	2.88
1,350	Treas IL 2½% 2001	163[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.90	3.24
800	Treas IL 2½% 2003	159[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.07	3.34
600	Treas IL 4⅝% 2004	108[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.20	3.47
1,350	Treas IL 2% 2006	163[illegible]	+1[illegible]	3.29	3.51
1,400	Treas IL 2½% 2009	147[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.47	3.66
1,550	Treas IL 2½% 2011	152[illegible] †	+[illegible]	3.52	3.69
1,850	Treas IL 2½% 2013	125[illegible] †	+[illegible]	3.57	3.73
1,950	Treas IL 2½% 2016	133[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.61	3.77
1,550	Treas IL 2½% 2020	127[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.66	3.80
1,200	Treas IL 2½% 2024	105[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.69	3.81
500	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	106[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.70	3.83

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.4507 (-0.0378)
German mark
2.3961 (+0.0011)
Exchange index
77.7 (-0.5)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2218.6 (+41.3)
FT-SE 100
2862.9 (+55.7)
New York Dow Jones
3442.14 (+132.11)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
17332.90 (+309.12)

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 071-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

BASS FINANCE NUMBER FOUR LIMITED
(Registered in England No 2449163)
Proposed payments out of capital pursuant to section 171 of the Companies Act 1985

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 175 of the Companies Act 1985 ("the Act") that:-

(i) Bass Finance Number Four Limited ("the Company") has by a Special Resolution passed on 2 February 1993 approved a payment out of capital for the purpose of acquiring by redemption 25,000,000 Redeemable Ordinary Shares of £1 each in its own share capital. The permissible capital payment (as defined in Section 171 of the Act) for such shares is £25,000,000;

(ii) the statutory declaration of the directors of the Company and the report of the auditors of the Company required by Section 173 of the Act in respect of such payment out of capital are available for inspection by any member or creditor of the Company at the Company's registered office during business hours on any day (except a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday) up to and including 8 March 1993. The registered office of the Company is at 20 North Audley Street, London W1Y 1WE; and

(iii) any creditor of the Company may at any time up to and including 8 March 1993, apply to the High Court of Justice under Section 176 of the Act for an order prohibiting such payment out of capital by the Company.

Ernest Grahame Williams, Secretary, Bass Finance Number Four Limited, 20 North Audley Street, London W1Y 1WE
8 February 1993

BRISEGROVE LIMITED
In Creditors Voluntary Liquidation

Notice is hereby given that the Creditors of the above-named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before 8th March 1993, to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to Ian Frances of 24 Conduit Place, London W2 1EP, the Liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated this 3rd day of February 1993.
I. Frances, Liquidator.

Peak Welders & Company Ltd
Registered Number: 1383608
Nature of business: Welders.
Trade Classification: 06
Date of Appointment of Joint Administrative Receivers: 1 February 1993
Name of Person Appointing the Joint Administrative Receivers: The Royal Bank of Scotland.
Joint Administrative Receivers: L A Manning & I P Phillips (office holder nos: 6477 & 2636) of: Buchler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF.

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE ALL YOUR ANNOUNCEMENTS PLEASE CALL DEBRA GYNN
TEL: 071 782 7344 or FAX: 071 481 9313

Maliks of London Limited
The Insolvency Act and Rules 1986

In accordance with Rule 4.106, I, L J Baehr of Baehr Lubbock Fine, Russell Bedford House, City Forum, 250 City Road, London EC1V 2QQ, give notice that on 29 January 1993 I was appointed Liquidator of Maliks of London Limited by resolutions of members and creditors.

Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before 19th March 1993 to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned L J Baehr of Russell Bedford House, City Forum, 250 City Road, London EC1V 2QQ, the Liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution.
Dated: 3 February 1993.
L J Baehr, Liquidator.

No. 00813 of 1993
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF PEOPLES BANK LIMITED
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 29 January 1993 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the paid up share capital of the above-named company from £14,000,000 to £5,000,000 by returning capital which is in excess of the wants of the Company.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 17th day of February 1993.

ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the under-mentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Dated this 8th day of February 1993
Dibb Lupton Broomhead
117 The Headrow
LEEDS LS1 5JX
Solicitors for the above-named company

The Insolvency Act 1986
S. FIGGIS & CO (BROKING) LTD
(In Liquidation)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Peter S. Flesher, Grant Thornton, Grant Thornton House, Melton Street, Euston Square, London NW1 2EP, was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by the members on 1st February 1993.
Dated this 3rd day of February 1993.
P.S. Flesher, Liquidator

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
INSTANCE CONTRACTS LIMITED
(In Administrative Receivership)

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held under the provisions of Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986 at Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU on 26 February 1993 at 12.30pm for the purposes mentioned in S48(2) and S49 of that Act.

Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or to be represented at the meeting.

Creditors who intend to vote at the meeting should note the following:

(a) Written statements of claim must be lodged with the administrative receiver by noon on the day before the meeting at Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU.

(b) Proxies for use at the meeting must also be lodged with the administrative receiver.

DATED 29th January 1993.
A R Bloom
Joint Administrative Receiver

HUMBER HOMES (LONDON) LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

In accordance with Rule 4.106 of The Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that I, Peter S Dunn FCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Latham Crossley & Davis 7 Kenrick Place, London W1H 3FF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the Secretary of State on 26th November 1992.
Dated this 26th November 1992
Peter S Dunn, FCA, Liquidator

The Insolvency Act 1986
COMYNS OF LONDON LIMITED AND WILLIAM COMYNS & SONS LIMITED
(both in Liquidation)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Vernon Charles Wright and Brian Reginald Anthony Callaghan of Chantrey Vellacott Russell Square House 10-12 Russell Square, London, WC1B 5LF, were appointed Liquidators of the said companies by the creditors on 26th January 1993.
Dated this 2nd day of February 1993
Brian Reginald Anthony Callaghan and Vernon Charles Wright, Liquidators.

THE MERIDIAN MARKETING GROUP PLC
(In Administrative Receivership)
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at 100 Chalk Farm Road, London NW1 8EJ on the 18th February 1993 at 10.00 a.m. for the purposes mentioned in Sections 48 and 49 of the said Act.

NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN that for the purposes of voting, secured creditors are required to lodge at the offices of Levy Gee and Partners, 100 Chalk Farm Road, London NW1 8EJ before the Meeting, a statement giving particulars of the security, the date when it was given and the value at which it is assessed.

Proxies and a supporting Statement of Account must be lodged with the Joint Administrative Receivers by 12 noon on 17th February 1993.
Dated this 4th day of February 1993.
Paul Shipperlee, FCA
Joint Administrative Receiver

MICHAEL SZELL LIMITED
TAKE NOTICE THAT I Michael William Young of Morlon Thornton & Co., Torrington House, 47 Holywell Hill, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 1HD, was appointed Liquidator of Michael Szell Limited by a Resolution of a meeting of the company's shareholders held on 1 February 1993.

Notice is also given that creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the Liquidator, at the above address, by no later than Friday 19 March 1993, which is the last day for proving claims. The Liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors, and any creditor who has not made a claim by the date mentioned will be excluded from the benefit of any such distribution.

The company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.
DATED this 3rd day of February 1993.
M W Young, Liquidator.

REIDS OF GUILDFORD LIMITED
Company Number: 1094721

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at The Stoke Hotel, 103 Stoke Road, Guildford, Surrey GU1 4JM on 18 February 1993 at 11.00 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act, the appointment of a Liquidator and a Liquidation Committee.

Mr D B Coakley of Leach Bright & Partners, Langton Priory, Portsmouth Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 5EH is qualified to act as an Insolvency Practitioner in relation to the company and will furnish creditors with such information concerning the company's affairs as is reasonably required.

Proxies to be used at the meeting must be lodged with the company's registered office at Leach Bright & Partners, Langton Priory, Portsmouth Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 5EH not later than 12 noon on 12th February 1993.
Date: 2 February 1993
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
Mr T R Reid, Director.

The Insolvency Act 1986
CAMBERY LIMITED
(In Liquidation)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Maurice Raymond Dorrington of Poppleton & Appleby, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN, was appointed Liquidator of the said Company by the members and creditors on 1st February 1993.
Dated this 1st day of February 1993.
M.R. Dorrington, Liquidator.

Statiefile Limited
Statiefile (No.1) Limited
FM & D Limited
Foundry Management & Design Limited
The Citadel (New Forest) Limited
Morgan Read & Coleman (Leasing) Limited

We, Stephen James Lister Adamson and Gareth Howard Hughes of Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU hereby give notice that on the 29th January 1993 we were appointed joint liquidators of the above named companies.

Notice is hereby given that the creditors are required on or before 18th March 1993 to send in their full names and addresses, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any) to us and if so required by notice in writing from us are personally or by their Solicitors to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
S.J.L. Adamson and G.H. Hughes, Joint Liquidators.

UB KITCHENS LIMITED
(In Administrative Receivership)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named Company will be held at 4th Floor, 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF on Monday 22 February 1993 at 3.00 pm for the purpose of having an account laid before them, showing the events leading up to the appointment of the Joint Administrative Receivers, the manner in which the Administrative Receivership has been conducted and the property of the Company disposed of, and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Joint Administrative Receivers.

Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or to be represented at the meeting. A person is entitled to vote at the meeting only if:

a. he has given to the Receivers, not later than 12.00 pm on the business day before the above day fixed for the meeting, details in writing of the debts that he claims to be due to him from the Company, and this claim has been duly admitted by the Receivers, and

b. there has been lodged with the Joint Administrative Receivers at Buchler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, a proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.

DATED this 4th day of February 1993.
Lee Anthony Manning
Joint Administrative Receiver

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity - John Menzies (Southern) Limited Employees' Benevolent Fund

The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this Charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at Hanover Buildings, Rose Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2YQ or obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St. Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX, quoting reference DGY-211621-A/1-CD-LDN3. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

PUBLIC NOTICES

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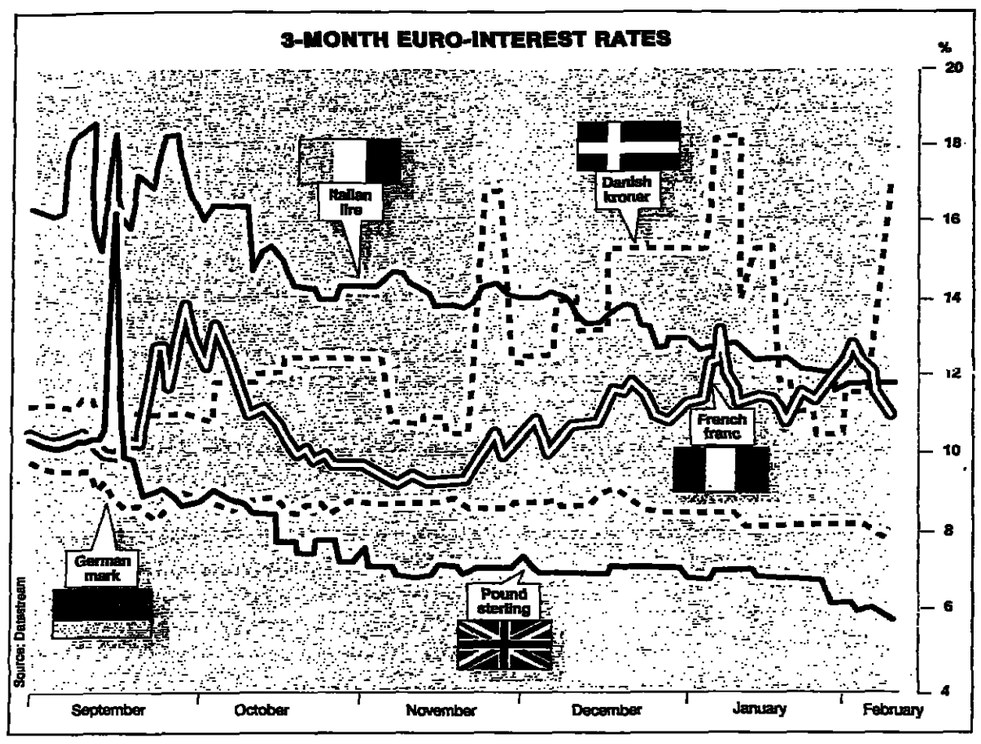
No.1. No Wonder.

ECONOMIC VIEW

Finishing the jigsaw to reveal that Wednesday's true colour

Britain has good reason to feel cheerful about the emerging, post-ERM economic pattern, writes Anatole Kaletsky



Just when the economic debate in Britain was settling down into sensible but boring consensus — practically everyone now agrees on the need for one further cut in interest rates, a gradual tightening of fiscal policy, and a freely floating pound — along came the French to offer some comic relief worthy of Red Nose day. John Major should have been hugely amused last Friday to be told he was "heading down a dead-end path" by Pierre Bérégovoy. The French prime minister should know. He is hurtling towards the ultimate political dead-end himself in the biggest electoral landslide in the history of the Fifth Republic.

In fact, by an odd double irony, Britain's economic recovery, combined with the miserly rate cut announced in Germany last week, should guarantee that the next French government turns away from M Bérégovoy's blind alley and leads the rest of Europe towards the sensible monetary policies that have suddenly become synonymous with Mr Major, policies that Mr Major attacked only five months ago in terms so venomous and dishonest that even M Bérégovoy might blush. Before considering how Mr Major's new economics is faring after the fuss over the interest rate cut two weeks ago, I want to make four further observations about events in Europe.

First, the Bundesbank's action on Thursday does not guarantee further support for the Danish kroner and French franc. On the contrary, the next speculative attack will probably meet with far less resistance. The response to last Thursday's action in the German media and public opinion has been cynical and hostile. The Bundesbank has been accused of caving in to foreign pressure and abandoning its domestic monetary responsibilities for the second time in six months. If German rates were cut again in response to a run on the Danish kroner, the blow to the Bundesbank's reputation would be as great as the one it suffered over German unification. It would be the end of the myth of central bank independence, a myth as emotive to present-day Germans as the *Niebelungenlied* was to Wagner.

Second, the consensus over monetary policy in France is not only shaky, as I mentioned last week, it is actually much weaker than the support for the ERM that existed in Britain until last September. Surveys have shown, for example, that 70 per cent of French businesses belonging to the *Patronat* would support a cut in interest rates even if it meant a weakening of the franc-mark link. In Britain, by contrast, there was not one significant business organisation or even individual business leader who publicly opposed the government's ERM policy — up to and even on White Wednesday.

By this measure, the French commitment to hold a fixed exchange rate is actually much weaker than the determination that ERM Britain showed.

Third, the grossly unequal treatment of the Irish punt and the Danish kroner exposed the irrationality — or the hypocrisy — of Europe's Franco-German leadership. If the punt had to be devalued because of Ireland's dependence on exports to Britain, then the kroner should have gone, too. In 1990, Ireland sold 49 per cent of its exports to Britain, Italy, Scandinavia and the other European countries that have devalued in the past five months. The corresponding proportion for Denmark was almost as high, at 42 per cent. Of course, it was the luck of the Irish to get the benefit of a quicker devaluation because Germany "favoured" the Danes.

Finally, there is the question of why Europe should want to fight the financial markets. A franc-mark realignment would not necessarily scupper the Maastricht treaty or dash hopes of European monetary union. There could be many ways of temporarily breaking the franc-mark link without abandoning the prospect, or even the timetable, of EMU. Two possibilities that German officials mention *sotto voce* would be to let the mark, rather than the franc, float out of the ERM for a limited period, or to give Germany a much wider fluctuation band for one year. At this very moment, the German and French finance ministries are surely working on contingency plans of this kind. All of which adds up to one conclusion: it ain't over till the fat lady sings.

Now, to return to Britain and Mr Major. Contrary to popular belief, the British government is now clearer and more united over economic policies than at any time since 1987. The supposedly bungled rate cut two weeks ago actually put the last piece in a jigsaw that now makes up a perfectly coherent economic policy.

Mr Lamont should have cut interest rates straight from 8 to 6 per cent in his Autumn Statement, as several of his key advisers recommended. Instead of pretending to boost the economy with largely fictitious building programmes like the Jubilee Line, he could then have made a virtue of the need to strike a balance between gradual fiscal tightening and bold monetary relaxation. Sterling might have fallen immediately, instead of rising for a brief mug's rally around Christmas. But that, too, should have been welcomed as a much-needed boost for manufacturing and exports. But better late then never.

The government's only serious economic mistake since White Wednesday was to waste time. It should not have taken five months to assemble the jigsaw of new policy once the financial markets handed Mr Major the pieces on September 16. But the squabbling among ministers and officials that stopped a coherent policy being put together, finally seems to have ended with last month's move by the prime minister to overrule the so-called voices of caution at the Treasury and Bank of England. Because of Mr Lamont's tardiness in cutting interest rates to a reasonable level, the economy today is much weaker than it would have been if he had been more decisive. As a result, interest rates should fall another 1 per cent in the Budget on March 16. Base rates of 5 per cent, provided they are implemented then, will almost certainly be low enough to trigger a strong economic recovery. Of course, the Chancellor could cut rates even before the Budget, but there are strong arguments for waiting until then. They have nothing to do with cat and mouse games between the Bank and the financial markets or laughable lobby briefings suggesting the prime minister would raise interest rates if necessary, to "defend" the pound. The cases for waiting are twofold.

First, there may be a need to offset the deflationary impact, and deflect the unpopularity, of a small increase in taxes. Second, there is a purely symbolic factor, but an important one nonetheless. By a happy coincidence, the Budget will be presented exactly six months after Britain's deliverance from the ERM. What better way to mark the occasion than to cut base rates to exactly half the level at which they stood on the morning of September 16?

Whatever was wrong with the British economy, a monetary easing on that scale would probably be enough to cure it. But there would be two other psychological advantages in a halving of interest rates between September 16 and March 16. It would send a timely signal to French voters and speculators, who go to the polls and the dealing desks, respectively, on March 21. It would have an even bigger impact on confidence among British businessmen, consumers, homeowners and politicians. Whatever nonsense they heard from across the Channel about the lonely anguish of an island nation floating away from Europe in turbulent financial markets, people in Britain would finally realise something on Budget day, something the politicians had desperately tried to hide. That memorable Wednesday exactly six months earlier was not "black", but pure white.

TEMPUS

Rights of passage

NOW the hand-washing in the boardroom of British Airways seems to be over, the City should begin to consider the fundamental issues that will affect the company and its share price. Recently, fundamentals have been pushed into the shade as sentiment has taken over. Witness the 10p fall in the shares last week, after KLM published heavy losses.

One of Sir Colin Marshall's early official duties will be to announce a set of decidedly disappointing results. Analysts in the City have cut their forecasts for BA's profits in the year to end-March to £200 million, from original estimates of almost double that.

Profits have fallen due to intense pressure on margins this summer, especially on premium seats. December's passenger load figures were also disappointing, with a 1.1 point year-on-year fall to 66 per cent for scheduled flights. Under these pressures, BA's management should be applauded for keeping the group in the black at all, while many of its competitors are recording astounding losses.

It was sheer foresight that prompted the group to cut £450 million from annual operating costs in the past two-and-a-half years.

The group is also being hit by rising interest costs. The completion of the Dan-Air, Qantas and USAir deals will increase BA's net debt to £2.2 billion, which will increase year-end gearing to about 160 per cent. True, many airlines operate with gearing of more than 200 per cent, depending on the form of aircraft financing. Even so, BA's interest cover will be cut to two times, which leaves little scope for a further fall in margins.

Inevitably, this points to an injection of fresh equity. The City may not take kindly to a full rights issue, which would need to be worth £500 million to have a meaningful impact on the balance sheet. However, institutions might accept a convertible issue, especially if backed by a decent coupon.

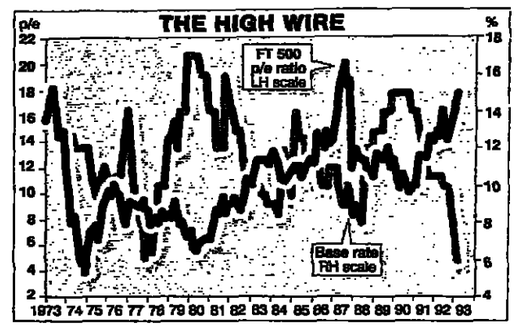
Only a cash injection of this kind would give Sir Colin the scope he needs to pursue his predecessor's vision of a global airline.

Equities

IF THERE has been one constant amid the violent swings in the financial markets in the past few months, it has been the unstoppable surge in share prices. The FT-SE 100 index has risen 25 per cent from the start of September to its high point last Wednesday, and the slight fall since then has done nothing to dent the faith of the City that it will soon breach the 3,000 level.

Shares are already beginning to look dangerously overvalued. The FT-SE 100 stocks are now valued on average at more than 12 times next year's earnings, even after assuming a healthy economic recovery. The historic p/e ratio on the FT-500 industrial index is now 18, a figure surpassed twice in the past 20 years, in 1973 and 1987. Both these occasions were quickly followed with a market crash that brought misery to thousands of investors. Admittedly, there is a key difference this time round — interest rates are falling rather than rising, which is exciting hopes of economic recovery and underpinning lower dividend yields. Meanwhile, the fall in the pound had prompted overseas investors to enter the market as a currency play and forced domestic institutions to chase stocks with high foreign earnings. Even so, the market is long overdue for a correction.

At these levels even a moderate 20 per cent fall would wipe 600 points off the FT-SE 100. This correction may well come during the forthcoming round of preliminary results, which begins with BT and BP on Thursday. A few disappointing profit figures and some gloomy statements from company chairmen could dispel the market's euphoria rapidly.



Generators

WHILE the outcome of the government's review of the coal industry is still in the melting pot, the City is calculating the financial effect of the likely outcome on the two generators. There is a price but also a reward for National Power and PowerGen shareholders for keeping some of the pits open.

If the government decides to keep some of the threatened pits open, it now seems likely it will coerce the generators to accept about 10 million tonnes of additional coal from them, but subsidise the price to world levels. The taxpayer foots the obvious bill, but the outcome is not as financially neutral for the generators as it appears.

Under the original coal contracts, both generators planned to reduce their coal stocks substantially. At present, these stand at a total of almost 35 million tonnes, worth more than £1.1 billion. Under the proposals, these stocks, at best, will remain unchanged, and could well begin rising. The carrying cost of this extra stock, at cost to funds of 9 per cent, plus considerable storage and security expenses, is likely to rise to £80 million, a direct hit to the companies' profits. The chance of this being subsidised is slim, even though the government guaranteed in the prospectuses of each company that it would not interfere with their commercial decisions or their relationship with British Coal.

The picture is not all black. In return for accepting the coal, National Power and PowerGen will win secure contracts and stable margins and be given confidence in the stability of earnings. The main result of this is both companies will be able to cut dividend cover in the next three to five years, as low as two-and-a-half times. On level earnings this puts PowerGen on a forward yield of more than 5.3 per cent and National Power on almost 4.6 per cent. The government could hardly dream up a better marketing plug for the sale of its 40 per cent stake in the two companies, now worth about £3 billion, perhaps early next year, when its fight to fund the PSBR could have become desperate.

BAA

ONLY too aware of its own limitations, BAA is trying to break out. The company is said to be in talks with up to eight American airports about running their retailing operations, and will be disappointed if it has not signed up another five this year. The Midfield terminal in Pittsburgh was profitable as soon as it opened in October.

The group should have this extra string to its bow. Its price agreement with the Civil Aviation Authority of RPI minus 8 per cent for the next two years means that landing fees will soon be a loss leader. Then BAA will need all its retailing skills to survive.

WORD WATCHING

Answers from page 36

BURDIEHOUSE
(a) French troops were stationed here in the first half of the sixteenth century. At that time it was a hamlet at a discreet distance from the town. A corruption of *Bordeaux*, but also influenced by the Scots *burdie* a little bird, as in Burns *Tam O'Shanter*: "The bonie burdies."

SYVER
(a) The gutter of the street, a drain, especially the drain-trap and its grating, from the OF *escavier, essevour, sewiere*, also found in MacAlpine's *Dictionary of Islay Gallic* (1832): "An opening like the syver of a drain." "These guileless laddie-weans, sitting by the syver edge."

VENNEL
(c) A narrow lane, passage or thoroughfare in a town or city, an alley or wynd, from the medieval Latin diminutive of *vena* a vein via OF. Edinburgh's best-known vennel runs alongside the remnants of the Flodden Wall. "When he is away to hold the prayer-meeting down the vennel." "To send one man out of every house to repair the high ways and vennels."

BARLEY
(c) In children's games the cry of "barley" halts proceedings so that the rules can be clarified or someone can tie his or her shoelace, a parley, truce, quarter in children's games, perhaps a corruption of the French *parlez* English *parley*; Scott *Waverley*: "A proper lad o' his quarters, that will not cry barley in a brulzie."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

Solution: the queen sacrifice 1 Qg8+! forces mate — 1 ... Kxg8 2 Re8+ Rxe8 3 Rxe8.

GOVERNO DE SÃO PAULO
CONSTRUINDO UM FUTURO MELHOR

SIXTH AMENDMENT OT THE INVITATION TO BID 8880/92

ELECTROMECHANICAL EQUIPMENT INTENDED FOR CANOAS I AND CANOAS II POWER PLANTS

The date for receipt of documentation and proposals is postponed to February 12, 1993, at same place and time.

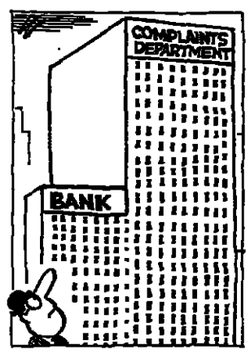
Administrative Directorate
Open Company
C.G.C. 60.933.603/0001-78

CESP Companhia Energética de São Paulo
SECRETARIA DE ENERGIA E SANEAMENTO

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Gilbert Eliott re-emerges

WHEN GiroCredit Bank of Vienna beat a hasty retreat from UK equities four months ago, it unceremoniously broke up Julian Knight's team at Gilbert Eliott, its old stockbroking subsidiary. Operating on the maxim that revenge is a dish best served cold, Knight and three of his former partners are back again with a new independent stockbroking firm — called Gilbert Eliott. Prospects had looked bleak after the four failed to find funding for a management buyout, but when the redundancy cheques arrived the team's joint financial position looked rosy enough to let them plan the relaunch from a temporary base in the old Gilbert Eliott messenger room. Knight, 47, and Diarmaid Glencairn-Campbell, 48, Greg Morgan, 47, and Mike Oxlade, 47, begin trading today in offices only one floor below their previous home in Salisbury House on London Wall, for only a third of the previous rent. Knight and Morgan will concentrate on equities and Glencairn-Campbell on convertibles, while Oxlade, who is married to Sally Duckworth, Salomon saleswoman, carries on as dealing partner. They have hired four others from the old firm plus David Chapman, a salesman. Launching again is "marginally terrifying", says Knight, who admits GE is "a minnow in comparison with the big sharks out there". But he is convinced there is still room for "independent, wise and experienced" stockbrokers.



By the book

NORMAN Lamont, the Chancellor, might be well advised to lay aside his Treasury briefing papers to read *Meltdown*, a controversial book by William Houston subtitled *The Great '90s Depression and How To Come Through It A Winner*. Houston, a former company doctor who helped turn round companies associated with Kleinwort Benson and the old Slater Walker securities firm, now lectures businessmen on crisis management and turnround. The book, out on February 22, forecasts a period of economic trouble on a par with the depression of the 1930s, and describes a chilling scenario of worldwide financial collapse. But astute thinkers can benefit from the catastrophe. The book, recommended as "priority reading" by Michael Jordan, chairman of Cork Gully, the receiver, also functions as a manual on how to take advantage of the ensuing opportunities. Of course, Lamont might not be around long enough to enjoy that bit.

DTI diplomacy

DIPLOMACY does not seem to be part of the trade and industry department's repertoire. DTI officials seem to have given little thought to the implications of holding its Global Technology Partnership Conference this spring at the Birmingham Metropole Hotel. Invitations have been sent to delegates from 24 countries. But the DTI seems to have forgotten that the Metropole is half owned by the Libyan State Bank. Israeli commercial attachés in London are considering boycotting the March 23-25 conference, at which Michael Heseltine will chair three sessions. No Libyan delegates have been invited.

THE fire brigade has sent executives' eyebrows shooting up above their Wayfarers in surprise at the UK headquarters of Bausch & Lomb, the American manufacturer of classic sunglasses and eyecare products. B&L is moving out of its rented offices to premises in Kingston, Surrey. "We wanted to call the new building Bausch & Lomb House," says a spokeswoman, "but the fire services say we can't use that name, because they don't know how to spell it."

MELINDA WITTSTOCK

LETTERS TO THE BUSINESS EDITOR

ERM is a loser

From Mr Paul Collins
Sir, So the ERM lives to fight another day, courtesy of the Bundesbank. It may have won the battle, but surely it cannot win the war.

One of the main features of a common currency, that is exchange-rate stability for industry and commerce, is completely contrary to the requirements of the foreign exchange dealing rooms.

For them, removing volatility would mean reduced bonuses and fewer jobs. In addition, currency speculators will not take kindly to the removal of profit opportunities. That is why I believe the markets will not let the ERM survive.

If the politicians really want EMU they will have to find a vehicle other than ERM to get them there.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL COLLINS,
2 Beecholm Mews,
Cheshunt,
Hertfordshire.

Getting relief from aircraft noise

From Mrs Virginia Godfrey
Sir, In his long article on runway congestion at Heathrow (February 3), Sir Robert McCrindle fails to mention the reason the two runways are used in alternation rather than mixed mode.

There is no such thing as a quiet aircraft now and no prospect of any in the future; technology in noise reduction has gone about as far as it can go. The only effective way to bring relief from aircraft noise to the people living under the flight paths is to use one runway for landings for half the day, the other for take-offs, so that at least the noise battering is not continuous for 17 hours a day.

The benefit of this much valued noise relief measure is well known to the government, which has frequently promised to continue the scheme, as part of its statutory duty to consider the environment. The half million people affected by aircraft noise around Heathrow are not theoretical environmentalists.

Daily life is constantly disrupted; it is impossible to enjoy the garden, school lessons are interrupted every minute, telephone conversations broken off.

It would be a betrayal to abandon the most effective relief measure, to very little avail to the aviation industry, since the last airports enquiries' inspector found mixed mode operations would offer little or no advantage in capacity. The problem of shortage of runway capacity at London's airports will not be solved by tinkering with the alternation system.

Yours faithfully,
VIRGINIA GODFREY
(Secretary),
HACAN (Heathrow Association for the Control of Aircraft Noise),
69 Kew Green,
Richmond, Surrey.

Cityspeak

From Mr John K. Roberts
Sir, Mr Curtis (Letters, February 2) is unfair to the Old Lady's friends and by inference to many others now "in the City". The facts are that many now "working in money" in the City have suffered poor educations and have weak vocabularies. Few understand nowadays the difference between peculation and speculation. However they are all keen on self-regulation; understandably so.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN K. ROBERTS,
The Old Nursery,
Easton,
Woodbridge,
Suffolk.

Speedy Gatwick

From Mr Howard Reeve
Sir, I can confirm the advantages of Gatwick Airport for business travellers, not just for those living in Brighton (Travel News, February 4). I had to rearrange a return British Airways flight from Geneva to Heathrow and opted for an earlier Gatwick flight. It arrived at 2.40, 15 minutes early; I caught the 3.05 Gatwick Express from the South Terminal, and reached Paddington in time for the 4.00 home to Cardiff. Unfortunately, flooding made the train late!

Yours faithfully,
HOWARD REEVE,
100 Bishops Road,
Whitchurch, Cardiff.

Presents of money

From Mr John du Bois
Sir, The many relatives who, like me, give children money at birthdays and Christmas by means of a cheque to a parent for paying into the child's National Savings investment account will be annoyed to learn that from this week cheque payments of this sort can no longer be accepted at post offices, nor any payments of less than £20. However, they can be accepted if sent direct to National Savings at Glasgow in special envelopes obtainable at post offices.

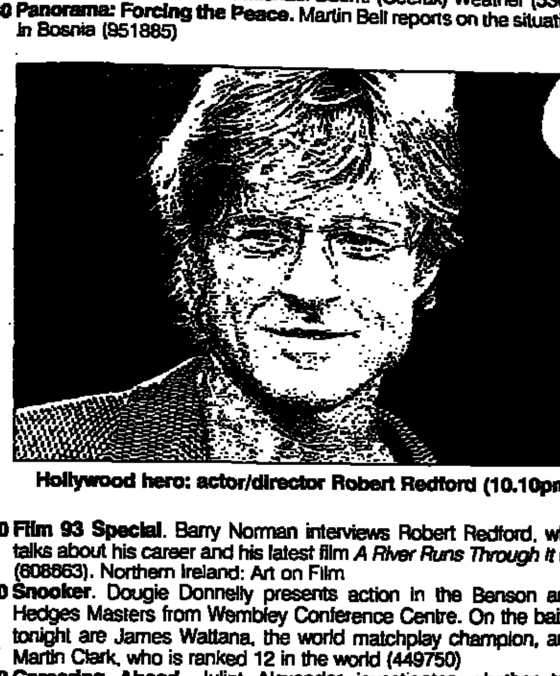
Yours faithfully,
JOHN DU BOIS,
3 The Old Slipway,
Arundel, West Sussex.

هكذا من الأصل

مكذا من الاجل

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (62953) **7.00 Breakfast News** (83587717)
9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (2006822) **9.45 Ross King.** Game show (s) (6557408)
10.00 News, regional news and weather (9122576) **10.05 Playdays.** For the very young (s) (6946446)
10.30 Good Morning . . . with Anne and Nick. Today's edition includes medical advice, a romantic story and a topical phone-in (s). With **News** (Ceefax) and weather at **11.00** and **12.00** (10143885)
12.15 Pebble Mill. Alan Titchmarsh is joined by the comedy impressionist Bobby Davro (s) (7817311) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (98609682)
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. (Ceefax) Weather (37934)
1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (87129040) **1.50 Eldorado** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (78185427)
2.20 Snooker. Dougie Donnelly presents play in the Benson and Hedges Masters from Wembley Conference Centre. In action this afternoon are Neal Foulds and Alan McManus (5776866)
3.45 Stoppit and Tidyup narrated by Terry Wogan (r) (s) (8146408) **3.50 Poddington Peas.** Animation (s) (3540866) **3.55 Radio Roo.** Episode six of the 13-part children's comedy drama (s) (8959330) **4.10 Jackanory.** Terry Jones with the tale of *The Star of the Farmyard*, the second of three *Fantastic Stories* (1253576) **4.25 Rude Dog and the Dweebs.** Cartoon (r) (2885392) **4.35 Peter Pan and the Pirates.** Animated series based on J.M. Barrie's novel *Peter and Wendy.* (Ceefax) (s) (3315885)
5.00 Newsround (1728576) **5.10 Blue Peter.** (Ceefax) (s) (4290953)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (356021). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Moira Stuart. (Ceefax) Weather (663)
6.30 Regional News Magazines (243). Northern Ireland: Neighbours
7.00 Eldorado. (Ceefax) (s) (4934)
7.30 Watchdog. Consumer affairs series (427)
8.00 Grace and Favour The last in the strained comedy series about the former staff of Grace Brothers now running a country hotel. This week they play host to a group of penurious Mongolian businessmen hoping to sample British culture. (Ceefax) (s) (3682)
8.30 Punch Drunk. Final episode of the mirthless comedy set in the Glasgow boxing world. (Ceefax) (s) (2717)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Weather (5363)
9.30 Panorama: Forcing the Peace. Martin Bell reports on the situation in Bosnia (951885)



Hollywood hero: actor/director Robert Redford (10.10pm)

10.10 Film 93 Special. Barry Norman interviews Robert Redford, who talks about his career and his latest film *A River Runs Through It* (s) (608863). Northern Ireland: Art on Film
10.40 Snooker. Dougie Donnelly presents action in the Benson and Hedges Masters from Wembley Conference Centre. On the baize tonight are James Wattana, the world matchplay champion, and Martin Clark, who is ranked 12 in the world (449750)
11.30 Careering Ahead. Juliet Alexander investigates whether top salesman can be trained *(r) (14595). Northern Ireland: Film 93* Special; Wales: Face Off
12.00 Weather (7417286). Northern Ireland: (to 12.30) Careering Ahead; Wales 12.05 Careering Ahead 12.35 News and weather

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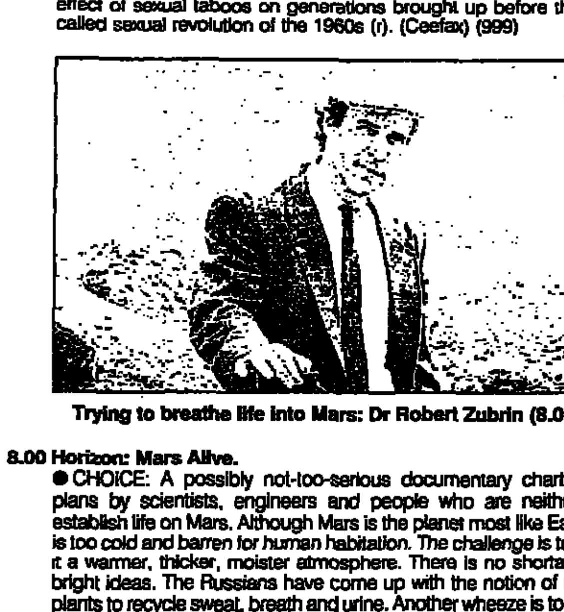
BBC2

6.45 Open University: Introduction to Economics (4608088) **7.10** Animal Physiology: a Natural Approach (1463507) **7.35** Data Models and databases (4945408)
8.00 Breakfast News (5553040)
8.15 Westminster (5543663)
8.30 Under Sail. In praise of the 18-footers of Sydney Harbour (r) (1737330)
8.50 A Week to Remember (b/w). Pathé newsclips from this week 40 years ago (2353175)
9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes
2.00 News and weather followed by **Storytime** (r) (s) (51830595) **2.15 Regional Westminster Programmes** (748682). Northern Ireland: Greenfingers **2.45 Past and Present Preserved: Dr Coopmanshus and the Eise Eisinga Planetarium.** A visit to an 18th-century planetarium (r) (8149798)
3.00 News(Ceefax) *and weather (7284750) followed by* **3.05 Songs of Praise** from the Roman Catholic Cathedral of St Mary and St Helen, Brentwood, Essex (r). (Ceefax) (s) (9450137) **3.40 A Week to Remember** (b/w). As 8.50am (8169359) **3.50 News** (Ceefax), regional news and weather (8158243)
4.00 Snooker. Dougie Donnelly introduces further action in the Benson and Hedges Masters match between Neal Foulds and Alan McManus (4311)
6.00 The Addams Family (b/w). The first of a two-part comic story about the classic American ghoulish family, based on the *New Yorker* magazine cartoon characters. (Ceefax) (798088)
6.25 DEF II begins with **Fresh Prince of Bel-Air.** American comedy series about a streetwise inner-city youth living with his wealthy west coast relations (s) (877330) **6.50 Cyberzone.** Virtual reality game show. This week Olympic hockey medallists Lisa Bayliss and Jane Sixsmith are challenged by two young adventurers from the Raleigh International organisation (s) (232412)
7.20 Animation Now. *The Cat Came Back, made by the National Film* Board of Canada (872205)
7.30 A Secret World of Sex: Sins of the Flesh. An exploration of the effect of sexual taboos on generations brought up before the so-called sexual revolution of the 1960s (r). (Ceefax) (999)



Trying to breathe life into Mars: Dr Robert Zubrin (8.00pm)

8.00 Horizon: Mars Alive.
● CHOICE: A possibly not-too-serious documentary charts the plans by scientists, engineers and people who are neither, to establish life on Mars. Although Mars is the planet most like Earth, it is too cold and barren for human habitation. The challenge is to give it a warmer, thicker, moister atmosphere. There is no shortage of bright ideas. The Russians have come up with the notion of using plants to recycle sweat, breath and urine. Another wheeze is to erect a huge greenhouse. A man from the British Interplanetary Society advocates warming up the planet through underground nuclear *explosions. A Japanese company has planned a human settlement* on Mars that would produce its first baby in 2057. If much of this smacks more of science fiction than science fact, it makes for a thoroughly diverting film. (Ceefax) (s) (663021)
8.50 Sean's Shorts. Comedian Sean Hughes concludes his journey round Britain with a visit to the Isle of Man (s) (905316)
9.00 Film: Shannon's Deal (1989) starring Jamey Sheridan and Elizabeth Pena. Pilot for a television series, written by John Sayles, about a Philadelphia lawyer with a weakness for gambling. The series came to little but the pilot offers a crisply-made tale of drug smuggling, with music from Wynton Marsalis. Directed by Lewis Teague. (Ceefax) (9224)
10.30 Newsnight with Jeremy Paxman (611525)
11.15 The Late Show. Jeremy Isaacs talks to the film director John Schlesinger (s) (125953) **11.55 Weather** (851934)
12.00 Seize the Fire. A play about the nature of power, by Irish poet Tom Paulin (89248). Ends at **12.30am**
2.00 Nightschool TV. Modern Languages: France français (66642). Ends at **4.00**

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV (8562576)
9.25 Runway. Quiz game show hosted by Richard Madeley (9647865) **9.55 London Today.** (Teletext) and weather (6922866)
10.00 The Time . . . The Place . . . Topical discussion programme *(8222224)*
10.35 This Morning. Magazine series presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Today's edition includes financial advice, a recipe and agony aunt Denise Robertson. With national and international news at **10.55** and regional news at **11.55** followed by national weather (80791156)
12.10 Tots TV. Learning with puppets programme (s) (2196381)
12.30 Lunchtime News. (Teletext) Weather (1169040) **1.05 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (80789156)
1.15 Home and Away. Australian family drama serial. (Teletext) (751156) **1.45 A Country Practice.** Medical drama series set in the *Australian outback (750427)*
2.15 Capital Woman. Anneka Rice on the pleasures and pitfalls of life in London for women (742408) **2.45 Families.** Soap linking the north of England with Australia (2178866)
3.10 ITN News headlines (7202156) **3.15 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (7201427) **3.20 Blockbusters.** General knowledge quiz game for teenagers, presented by Bob Holness (5175408)
3.50 The Real Ghostbusters. Cartoon (r) (3478327) **4.15 Harry's Mad.** The final episode of the drama based on the novel by Dick King-Smith (s) (353663) **4.45 Go Wild!** The first of a new series of the environmental programme, presented by Chris Packham (3306137)
5.10 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (8151514)
5.40 Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (906175)
6.00 London Tonight presented by Alastair Stewart and Fiona Foster. (Teletext) (23330)
7.00 Wish You Were Here . . ? Judith Chalmers reports from Venezuela and the Andes; John Carter looks at self-catering holidays in the *Mediterranean; and Anna Walker is in the Cornish resort of Looe.* (Teletext) (s) (2330)
7.30 Coronation Street. (Teletext) (595)
8.00 The Upper Hand. Weak role reversal comedy starring Joe McGann as a footballer-turned-housekeeper for a businesswoman. With Diana Weston and Honor Blackman (s) (8750)

Target: Leoluca Orlando (right) with bodyguards (8.30pm)

8.30 World in Action: The Walking Corpse. Leoluca Orlando is the leader of a new Italian party dedicated to defeating the Mafia. This *film follows him in the week when the police captured the Sicilian* godfather, Salvatore "Toto" Riina. If the Mafia seeks revenge, Orlando knows he will be a main target (7885)
9.00 Head Over Heels. Fifties drama series created by Jane Prowse. (Teletext) (6243)
10.00 News at Ten. (Teletext) Weather (39066) **10.30 London Tonight** *(Teletext) and weather (665779)*
10.40 The Good Sex Guide. Margi Clarke takes a lighthearted look at the forces of sexual attraction. With Helena Bonham Carter, Anita Dobson, Gary Olsen and Timothy Spall (307224)
11.10 Film: How Awful About Allan (1969) starring Anthony Perkins and Julie Harris. Routine drama about a guilt-ridden blind mental patient *who thinks release from hospital and closeness to his sister will cure* him of his afflictions. A made-for-television movie directed by Curtis Harrington (630663)
12.30am The Beat. Music magazine (s) (17731)
1.30 Sport AM. Golf from Australia and European football (68248)
2.30 60 Minutes. News magazine from the United States (51422)
3.30 Videofashion. The French collections (34996)
4.00 Hollywood Report. Showbusiness gossip (r) (55489)
4.30 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema. Reviews of the latest American film releases (r) (24460)
5.00 Riviera. French soap following the fortunes of the aristocratic de Courcey family (88170)
5.30 ITN Morning News (87101). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.45 Spiff and Hercules (9514311) **7.00 The Big Breakfast** (50885)
9.00 You Bet Your Life. American game show (s) (82595)
9.30 Schools (487427)
12.00 Right to Reply. Viewers give their reaction to the *Cutting Edge* programme *The Care Business*; and Roland Rat reviews *GMTV* (r). (Teletext) (s) (89589)
12.30 Sesame Street (58717) **1.30 Lift Off** (s) (12224)
2.00 Film: Broken Journey (1948, b/w) starring Phyllis Calvert, Derek Bond and David Tomlinson. Stodgy, unconvincing drama about the survivors of a planecrash in the Alps struggling to stay alive. Directed by Ken Annakin (401779)
3.35 Festival An observation of animators at their annual get-together. Followed by *Yes We Can*, an animation by Faith Hubley about Mother Earth being reduced to a haggard wreck by man's depredations (4723214)
3.55 *Gardens Without Borders.* *Alan Mason continues his tour of* French gardens with a visit to Le Vastenval, near Dieppe (r). (Teletext) (s) (8737972)
4.30 Countdown. Richard Whiteley presides over another round of the words and numbers game (Teletext) (s) (408)
5.00 The Late Late Show. Music and chat from Dublin, hosted by Gay Byrne (s) (9243)
6.00 Children's Ward Episode one of a 26-part drama first shown on ITV and set in a large general hospital. (Teletext) (601)
6.30 The Cosby Show. American domestic comedy series (r). (Teletext) (953)
7.00 Channel 4 News. *(Teletext) Weather (393224)*
7.50 Comment. Richard Rosser argues that rail privatisation is bad news for passengers (920576)
8.00 Brookside. Topical soap set in a Merseyside close. (Teletext) (s) (6392)
8.30 Desmond's. Genial comedy series set in a Peckham barber's shop. *Starring Norman Beaton (5427)*

Suspect: a man is stopped by constable Rothman (9.00pm)

9.00 Cutting Edge: Soweto Flying Squad.
● CHOICE: A trenchant documentary about the men who try to police South Africa's biggest black township tries to steer a neutral path through a political minefield. It would be easy to portray the officers, who are young, white and armed to the teeth as racist thugs glorifying in violence. Equally it would be tempting to represent the Soweto blacks as hardened criminals bent on looting and killing. Both portraits contain an element of truth. The cops can be trigger happy and their excesses are lightly disciplined. Soweto does have one of the highest crime rates in the world. But Joanna *Head's film tries to evoke rather than to judge. She weighs black* anger against the police with the fears of a policeman's wife who sleeps with a gun at her side. The mutual hostility and distrust seems like a microcosm of South Africa itself. (Ceefax) (4885)
10.00 Northern Exposure. Off-beat comedy series about a New York *doctor working among a collection of eccentrics in a remote Alaskan town. Starring Rob Morrow (s) (7972)*
11.00 South: Deadline 1997.
● CHOICE: A new series of documentaries by and about non-Europeans opens with items from Hong Kong and China. A report from Hong Kong suggests that the transfer of power in 1997 may be fine for the business community, who can take advantage of cheap *Chinese labour and move their factories across the border.* For Hong Kong's blue collar class the prospect is less enticing. Already they are being put out of work by illegal immigrants, prepared to work for lower wages. Unemployment is high and the gap between rich and poor is widening. It is also suggested that Peking will be prepared to look tolerantly on the Triads, the Hong Kong version of the Mafia. The second film looks at China's move to a consumer culture in which McDonald's is replacing chairman Mao as the ideological reference point (30021)
12.00 Hollywood Legends. A portrait of William Holden (r) (5179286)
1.05am The Twilight Zone: The Brain Centre at Whipples (b/w). A tale of the supernatural starring Richard Deacon (4428606). Ends at **1.30**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 2.15-2.45 Yan Can Cook (742408) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (5175408) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (8151514) **6.00** Home and Away (786514) **6.25-7.00** *Anglia News (628137)* **11.10** Miller and Mueller (225392) **12.05** Alfred Hitchcock Presents (7821064) **12.35** The Equalizer (5382441) **1.30** Sport AM (68248) **2.30** Donahue (8100915) **3.25** The Beat (9248847) **4.30** Riviera (24460) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (88170)

BORDER
As London except: 2.15-2.45 Dining in France (742408) **3.20-3.50** Sons and Daughters (5175408) **6.00** Lookaround (359) **6.30-7.00** Take the High Road (311) **10.40** Film: Amityville — The Evil Escapes (77384359) **12.25** Night Shift (7405441) **12.35** The Equalizer (5382441) **1.30** Sport AM (68248) **2.30** Donahue (8100915) **3.25** The Beat (9248847) **4.30** Riviera (24460) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (88170)

CENTRAL
As London except: 1.15 A Country Practice *(751156) 1.45 Home and Away (750427)* **2.15-2.45** Graham Kerr (42937327) **3.20-3.50** GP (5175408) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (8151514) **6.00** Home and Away (786514) **6.25-7.00** Central News (628137) **11.10** Boxing — WBC Welterweight Title (970330) **12.10** Crime Story (9708460) **1.05** McCloud (187373) **2.55** *60 Minutes (5248151)* **3.50** Jobfinder (1128002) **4.55** Karm Bhoomi (66268731) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (3592118)

GRANADA
As London except: 1.15 A Country Practice (751156) **1.45** Home and Away (750427) **2.15-3.10** *Murder, She Wrote (9825885)* **3.20-3.50** Sons and Daughters (5175408) **5.10-5.40** Bratpack (8151514) **6.00** Home and Away (359) **6.30-7.00** Granada Tonight (311) **10.40** Film: Amityville — The Evil Escapes (77384359) **12.25** Night Shift (7405441) **12.35** The Equalizer (5382441) *1.30 Sport AM (68248)* **2.30** Donahue (8100915) **3.25** The Beat (9248847) **4.30** Riviera (24460) **5.00-5.30** Jobfinder (88170)

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.45 Blockbusters (750427) **2.15-2.45** Graham Kerr (742408) *3.20-3.50 The Sullivans (5175408)* **6.00-7.00** HTV News (359) **11.10** Flavio — The Sculptor Who is Blind (529250) **11.40** Life Goes On (586040) **12.35** The Equalizer (5382441) **1.30** Sport AM (68248) **2.30** Donahue (8100915) **3.25** The Beat (9248847) **4.30** Riviera (24460) **5.00-5.30** *Jobfinder (88170)*

HTV WALES
As HTV West except: 6.00 Wales at Six **6.30-7.00** Primetime **10.40** The Welsh Choral Festival **11.10** The Good Sex Guide **11.40-12.35** Life Goes On

MERIDIAN
As London except: 2.15-2.45 I Can Do That (742408) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (5175408) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (359) **6.30-7.00** Country Ways (311) **11.10** Miller & Mueller (225392) **12.05-12.30** Alfred Hitch*cock Presents (7840199)* **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (88170)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 1.45-2.45 Island Son (8200576) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (5175408) **6.00** Tyne Tees Today (359) **6.30-7.00** *College Cuisine (311) 11.10 Prisoner:* Cell Block H (225392) **12.05** Film: Dirty Money (988151) **1.50** Entertainment UK (4171151) **2.50** Trans World Sport (8104731) **3.50** ITV Chart Show (5777644)

ULSTER
As London except: 1.45 Fair City (750427) **2.15-2.45** Scotland's Larder (742408) **6.00-7.00** UTV Live at Six (23330) **11.10** Film: The Asphyx (206595) **12.35** The Equalizer (5382441) **1.30** Sport AM (68248) **2.30** Donahue (8100915) **3.25** The Beat

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 1.45 Blockbusters (750427) **2.15-2.45** Gardening Time (742408) **3.20-3.50** A Country Practice (5175408) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (23330) **10.40** Westcountry Focus (307224) **11.15** Murphy's Law (224663) **12.10** *Bagdad Cafe (8553441)* **12.35** The Equalizer (5382441) **1.30** Sport AM (68248) **2.30** Donahue (8100915) **3.25** The Beat (9248847) **4.30** Riviera (24460)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 1.45-2.45 Island Son *(8200576)* **3.20-3.50** *The Young Doctors* (5175408) **5.55** Calendar (381069) **6.30-7.00** Enterprize '93 (311) **11.10** Prisoner: Cell Block H (225392) **12.05** Film: Dirty Money (988151) **1.50** Entertainment UK (4171151) **2.50** Trans World Sport (8104731) **3.50** The ITV Chart Show (5777644) **4.45-5.30** *Jobfinder (1446557)*

S4C
Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (50885) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (82595) **9.30** Schools (487427) **12.00** Right to Reply (89589) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (13953) **1.00** Lift Off (53972) **1.30** A Day in the Life... (12224) **2.00** Film: China Seas (6835917) **3.25** Timesigns (5185021) **3.55** Gardens Without Borders (6269750) **4.25** Slot 23 (8887866) **5.00** Countdown (7408) **5.30** Brookside (208) **6.00** News (139682) **6.10** Heno (757068) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (2412) **7.30** Sgorio (73040) **8.30** News (896205) **8.55** Pelydr X (185953) **9.30** Cheers (33717) **10.00** Northern Exposure (834779) **10.55** Cutting Edge (181224) **11.55** Nightingales (451798) **12.25** Dream On (7842557) **12.55** Close

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (36421885) **8.40** Lamb Chops Play-a-Long (5823717) **9.10** Karate Kat (8560595) **9.30** The Pyramid Game (86069) **10.00** Strike it Rich (58953) *10.30 The Bold and the Beautiful (37069)* **11.00** The Young and the Restless (42048) **12.00** Falcon Crest (49392) **1.00pm** E Street (77576) **1.30** Another World (7677819) **2.15** Santa Barbara (399330) **2.45** Maude (399601) **3.15** The New Leave It to Beaver (395514) **3.45** The DJ Kat Show (2482822) **5.00** *Star Trek: The Next Generation* (5205) **6.00** Rescue (9359) **6.30** E Street (27663) **7.30** All (9595) **7.30** Family Ties (9595) **8.00** Parker Lewis Can't Lose (5682) **8.30** Whose Baby? (mini-series, 2 of 2) (48205) **10.30** Studs (38798) **11.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (87953) **12.00** Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (49514) **9.30** Roving Report (20021) **10.30** Memories of 1970-1991 (19427) **11.30** Business Report (13021) *1.30pm Good Morning America (14972)* **2.30** Parliament Live (40514) **3.30** Parliament Live (40885) **5.00** Live at Five (29311) **7.30** Special Report (887683) **10.30** Special Report (41682) **11.30** ABC World News Tonight (18583) **12.30am** Travel Destinations (46267) **1.30** ABC News (26480) **2.30** *Memories of 1970-1991 (21880)* **3.30** ABC News (33625) **4.30** Special Report (35422) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (48915)

SKY MOVIES+
8.00am Showcase (2966514)
10.00 End of the Line (1987): Railway *workers steal a vintage engine (84601)*
12.00 Mayerling (1969): Omar Sharif and Catherine Deneuve as the lovers (26781953)
2.25pm Silver Lode (1954): A man is accused of murder on his wedding day (949430)
4.00 A Little Piece of Heaven (1991). An orphan sets up an orphanage (9327)
6.00 End of the Line (as 10am) (57476)
8.00 Look Who's Talking (1989). Bruce Willis as the baby that speaks (23305359)
9.40 UK Top Ten (531427)
10.00 A.W.O.L. (1990): A French Legionnaire fights for his sister-in-law (436682)
11.50 I Bought a Vampire Motorcycle (1990): A bike only works at night (450682)
1.30am Struck by Lightning (1990): Comedy drama about a teacher in a Down's Syndrome workshop (958248)
3.05 Sher Mountain Killings Mystery (1990): Five children find a gem (4136422)
4.30 Till Murder Do Us Part (1992): A deserted woman seeks revenge (30977). *Ends at* **6.00**

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.15pm Abba The Movie (1977): A record of the band's Australian tour (32327224)
8.00 The Abdication (1974): The story of the 17th-century Queen Christina (80601)
10.00 Southern Comfort (1981): Guardsmen are trapped in the Louisiana swamps (82717). Ends at **12.00**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.55am Come Back, Little Sheba (1952): Three people try to live together (68822224)
8.35 The Chalk Garden (1965): A new governess arrives at a house (60004066)
10.25 Ghost in the Invisible Bikini (1966): Boris Karloff tries to get to heaven (7840243)
11.55 Beach Ball (1965). Music, girls and sand (4783408)
1.25 Muscle Beach Party (1964). Frankie Avalon falls for a contessa (21235330)
3.05 The Bad News Bears go to Japan (1978): The team sees a chance to make money (56969779)
4.40 The Chalk Garden (as 8.35am) (17312296)
6.30 Xposure (6021)
7.00 Woman with a Past (1992). A wife is arrested for armed robbery (81779)
9.00 Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves (1991): Kevin Costner takes from the rich to give to the poor (40836972)
11.25 Nikita (1990): A girl sentenced to life is trained to be an assassin (950972)
1.25am *The Looking Glass War* *(1969):* Spy thriller by John le Carré (726809)
3.15 Serial (1981): The lifestyle of 1980's Californians (744286)
4.50 Bikini Beach (1964): Musical with Frankie Avalon (7030828). Ends at **6.40**

SKY SPORTS
6.30am Stretch (10917) **7.00** Howzat (53392) **8.00** Redline (54021) **9.00** Stretch (25663) **9.30** The Big League (18427) **11.30** Stretch (75804) **12.00** Howzat (57750) **1.00pm** PGA Golf (60412) **3.00** Football: Spurs v Southampton (68427) **5.00** Surfing *(7205) 6.00 Soccer News (472069)* **6.03** Trucks 'N' Tractor Power (7175) **6.30** Goal (8427) **7.00** Football: Leeds v Manchester Utd (420392) **10.00** Soccer News (326717) **10.03** Boots & All (32040) **11.00** Fishing the West (90576) **11.30** Goal (83663) **12.00-2.00am** Football (as 7pm) (86118)

EUROSPORT
6.30am Skiing (39446) **8.00** Aerobics (37408) **8.30** Skiing (47243) **10.00** Aerobics (12175) **10.30** Euroscores (49243) **11.00** Eurofun (93663) **11.30** Skiing (51205) **12.30pm** Two Man Bobsleigh (195069) **3.00** Tennis (51565) **5.00** Skiing (5601) **6.00** *Tennis (43156)* **8.00** *Eurofun* (2750) **8.30** News (1885) **9.00** Eurogoals (24021) **10.00** Boxing (31224) **10.30** Skiing (26330) **11.30** News (18359)

SCREENSPORT
7.00am Tennis (51934) **8.00** PGA Tour (52683) **9.00** Ten Pin Bowling (67934) **10.00** Pro Muay Thai (13392) **11.00** NBA Action (25327) **11.30** Basketball (21205) **1.30pm** Monster Trucks (75156) **2.00** Gol (86750) **3.00** Tennis (75822) **4.00** Mountain Bike Show (8040) **4.30** Top Match Football (11040) **5.30** Boxing (99392) **6.30** NHL (89088) **8.30** Tennis (84243) **9.30** Football Europa (56021) **10.00** Global Adventure Sport (44798) **10.30** PGA Tour (48296) **11.30** Ten Pin Bowling (48021) **12.30-1.00am** 10K Road Races (42267)

UK GOLD
6.00am Rainbow (38219663) **6.15** Button Moon (38247446) **6.30** The Raccoons (1046717) **7.00** Defenders of the Earth (3279934) **7.30** Neighbours (3298069) **8.00** *Sons and Daughters (5870866)* **8.30** EastEnders (5879137) **9.00** The Bill (5893717) **9.30** The Duchess of Duke Street (5692224) **10.30** Shoestring (7888953) **11.30** Don't Wait Up (8123141) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (5873953) **12.30** Neighbours (5462798) **1.00** EastEnders (3278205) **1.30** The Bill (5461069) **2.00** George and Mildred (7886682) **2.30** After Henry (3706427) **3.00** Dallas (2525507) **4.00** Defenders of the Earth (3797779) **4.30** Jossy's Giants (3786663) **5.00** Neighbours (7677934) **5.30** Dr Who (3700243) **6.00** The Duchess of Duke Street (5470717) **7.00** George and Mildred (7697798) **7.30** Don't Wait Up (3787392) **8.00** EastEnders (7606446) **8.30** After Henry (7685953) **9.00** Shoestring (3589578) **10.00** The Bill (5874682) **10.30** Three of a Kind (5863330) **11.00** Dick Emery (6925363) **11.30** Film: The Marshal of Mesa City (1939, b/w): A retired marshal returns to law enforcement. With George O'Brien, Virginia Vale and Leon Ames (8517311) **12.30-1.30am** Video Bites (9999267)

RADIO 3

6.55am Weather
7.00 On Air: Chris de Souza with music, news, weather and arts stories. Including Shostakovich (Scherzo, Op 7: USSR Ministry of Culture SO under Gennadi Rozhdestvensky); Bach, arr Walcha (Contrapunctus XVIII: Helmut Walcha, organ); *Schubert, arr Newbould* (Scherzo, Symphony in D, D708A: Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields under Neville Marriner); Crusell (Clarinet Concerto No 1 in E flat: Thea King; LSO under Alun Francis)
9.00 Composer of the Week: Saint-Saëns From 1857-1877, the composer was organist at the church of St Marie-Madeleine in Paris. Danse macabre, arr Lemare (Wayne Marshall, *organ); Mass* (Lausanne Vocal Ensemble under Michel Corboz); Romance, Op 36 (Gilbert Coursier, horn, Annie d'Arco, piano)
10.05 Morning Sequence: Rameau. Castor et Pollux, Prologue (Les Arts Florissants under William Christie); Pièces de clavecin en concerts No 2 (Frans Brüggen, flute, Sigiswald Kuijken, violin, Wieland *Kuijken, gamba, Gustav* Leonhardt, harpsichord); Quam dilecta (La Chapelle Royale under Philippe Herreweghe); Nouvelle Suite in A (William Christie, *harpsichord); Castor et Pollux,* Act 2 — excerpts (Les Arts Florissants under William Christie)
12.00 Vintage Years: Recordings of the German conductor Hans *Knappertsbusch*
1.00pm News 1.05 BBC Lunchtime Concert, from St John's, Smith Square. The Gaudier Ensemble performs Schubert (Octet in F, D803)
2.10 Opera News, with James Naughtie *(r)*
2.55 BBC Scottish SO under Jerzy Maksymiuk, with Amaldo Cohen, piano, performs Michael Torke (Green): Falla *(Nights in the Gardens of* Spain); Dvořák (Symphony No 9 in E minor, From the New World)
4.20 Morphogenesis: Charles Camilleri's piece for the organ, based on the works of Teilhard de Chardin, played by Kevin Bowyer in Coventry Cathedral
5.00 In Tune, with Andrew Green
7.30 EBU Concert: Live from Hamburg, the North German Radio SO under Hans Zender performs Mendelssohn (Overture, Die schöne Melusine); Schumann (Cello Concerto in A minor: Heinrich Schiff); **8.05** Wir lachen doch! Andrew Sachs talks to the comedian Loriot about what makes Germans laugh. **8.25** Bernd Alois Zimmermann (Impromptu). Reger (Four *Portraits after Arnold Böcklin*)
9.10 The Big Thicket: The American writer Edward Swift tells stories of his childhood
9.20 BBC Singers under Bo Holten perform Gombert (Ave Maria; Pater noster, Ave sanctissima Maria); Sandstrom (A New Heaven and a New Earth; Es ist genug, hear my prayer, O Lord)
10.10 Albinoni
● CHOICE: A cherished *illusion* — that the Venetian composer Albinoni wrote the much-loved *Adagio* with which his name is always bracketed — is shattered by this series of recitals by the Locatelli Trio. The *Adagio* is actually a 20th-century work by Giazotto, though it *is* based on an Albinoni fragment. Bach thought so much of Albinoni that he based fugues on his music, and we hear one tonight, the BWV 951. *Albinoni* unalloyed is represented by his sonatas Op 6 No 4, Op 4 No 6, and Op 6 No 7
10.45 Mixing It, with Robert Sandall and Mark Russell
11.30 Chambonnières: *Sophie* Yates plays music by the initiator of the French harpsichord school and musical tributes from those influenced by him Chambonnières (*Suite No 1 in* A minor); Louis Couperin (Suite in C); D'Anglebert (Tombeau de M de Chambonnières); Froberger (Prelude); Couperin (Prélude à l'imitation de Monsieur Froberger). Chambonnières (Suite No 2 in C)
12.30-12.35am News
1.00-2.25 Night School (except in Scotland: as R5 at 1.05pm)

RADIO 4

(s) for Stereo on **FM**
5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** *Weather 6.10 Farming Today* **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.45** Business News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.35** The Week on 4 **8.43** The Roar of the Crowd, with Arnold Brown (s) **8.55** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week, presented by Melvyn Bragg and Brenda Maddox. John Cleese, Robin Skynner, Fay Weldon and Shirley Reynolds discuss stress (s)
10.00-10.30 News; Wordly Wise (FM only): Peter Hobday with Christina Dodwell, Roy Hattersley, Lorelei King and *Roger McGough (s)*
10.00 Daily Service (LW only) from St Paul's Church, Birmingham
10.15 A Confession (LW only): Leo Tolstoy's autobiographical search for the meaning of life. Read by Joss Ackland (3/10)
10.30 Woman's Hour interviews the pianist Joanna MacGregor; discusses medical secrecy and people's right to know with Claire Rayner; and looks at gay fostering. Incl **11.00 News**
11.30 Money Box Live: 071-580 4444 from 10am (s)
12.00 You and Yours, with John Howard
12.25pm Counterpoint: *Musical quiz with Ned Sherrin. From* the Altrincham Club Theatre (s) **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with James Naughtie
1.40 The Archers (r) (s) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Craft
● CHOICE: The first of two good reasons why Guy Meredith's 1984 comedy about a portrait painter turned housebreaker (Norman Rodway) is being repeated today is that Meredith's sequel goes out next Monday afternoon. The other reason is that *Craft* is well-crafted entertainment, directed with all stops out by Cherry Cookson, and offering Rodway a rare chance to show how well he does it when he quits his habitual shadows to trip the *light fantastic (r) (s)*
3.30 No Triumph, No Tragedy: Bob Taylor became managing director of Birmingham Airport 23 years ago. Five months into the job he had an accident that meant he would never walk again. *He kept his job* despite the disability (s)
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope listens to a new recording of Mendelssohn songs by Barbara Bonney; and looks at the latest methods television uses to whet the appetite (s)
4.45 Short Story: Now You Know, by Michael Carson. Read by Trevor Nichols
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Just a Minute! Nicholas Parsons challenges guests Clement Freud, Paul Merton, Wendy Richard and Tony Slattery to talk for a minute without hesitation, repetition or *deviation (r) (s)*
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers (s)
7.20 The Food Programme: Derek Cooper explores the history of the Pot Noodle (r)
7.45 The Monday Play: A Canticle *for Leibowitz.* Michael Mackenzie, John Shedden and Andrew Price star in Walter M. Miller's play about a post-holocaust world, in which the remnants of scientific knowledge are guarded by a group of monks (r) (s)
9.15 Kaleidoscope (r) (s)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight (s) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Richard Kershaw (s)
10.45 A Book at Bedtime: An Evil Cradling. Brian Keenan reads the first of his ten-part account of four and a half years as a hostage in the Lebanon
11.00 Decline and Fall: Alistair McGowan, Jim Broadbent and Andrew Sachs star in the Evelyn Waugh classic (final part) (r) (s)
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (**FM** only)

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: FM-90.2-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-*92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM* 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; World Service: MW 648kHz/463m. Classic FM: FM-100-102.

RADIO 1
FM Stereo and MW. **4.00am** Bruno Brookes with The Early Breakfast Show (**FM** only) **6.00** Simon Mayo **9.00** Simon Bates **12.30pm** Newsbeat **12.45** Gary Goes to Your Place: Cardiff **3.00** Steve Wright in the Afternoon **6.00** Mark Goodier's Mega Hits **6.30** News '93 **7.00** Mark Goodier's Evening Session **9.00** Out on Blue Six with Mark Radcliffe **10.00** Paul Gambaccini Goes into the Night **12.00** Jools Holland (FM only) (r) **12.30-4.00am** Bob Harris (FM only)

RADIO 2
FM Stereo. **5.00am** Sarah Kennedy with The Early Show **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.00** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** Neil Kinnock **7.00** Hubert Gregg says Thanks for the Memory **7.30** Dance Band Days, and at **8.00** Big Band Era **8.30** Big Band Special **9.00** Humphrey Lyttelton with The Best of Jazz **10.00** Do You Come Here Often? Rosemarie Ford profiles Edmundo Ros (4/6) **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Jazz Parade **12.35** Steve Madden with Night Ride **3.00-5.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5
News and sport on the hour until **7.00pm. 6.00am** World Service **6.30** Danny Baker's Morning Edition **9.30** Johnnie Walker with The AM Alternative **11.30** BFBS Worldwide **12.30pm** Body Talk **1.05** Schools: Topic Resources 5-7; **1.20** English 9-11; **1.40** *Poetry Corner;* **1.50** *Let's Move!;* **2.10** *History 9-11* **2.30** *A Game of* Two Halves **4.30** Five Aside **6.30** The Trial of Anna Cotman: A thriller by Vivien Alcock (1/4) **7.15** The Secret of the Indian, by Lynne Reid Banks (1/5) **7.30** Champion Sport: Leeds Utd v Manchester Utd **9.30** Black Museum **10.10** The Mix **12.00-12.10am** News; Sport

WORLD SERVICE
All times in GMT. **4.30am** Waveguide **4.40** Travel and Weather **4.45** Programmes in German **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** News **6.15** The Week Ahead **6.25** Book Choice **6.30** Programmes in French **6.59** Weather **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** Task Force Orient **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Health Matters **8.30** Anything Goes **9.00** News **9.05** Business Report **9.15** Poets and Places **9.30** Andy Kershaw's World of Music **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** It's Your World Phone-Ins **10.30** The Vintage Chart Show **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **11.59** Business Update **Midday** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Just a Minute **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News *2.05 Outlook 2.30 Off the Shelf: Picnic at Hanging Rock* **2.45** Music from the Med **3.00** News **3.15** What's News? **3.30** After Independence **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.29** News in French **4.30** Programmes in German **5.00** News and Business Report **5.15** BBC English **5.30** Programmes in French **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Programmes in German **8.00** News **8.10** The World Today **8.25** Words of Faith **8.30** Europe Tonight **9.00** News **10.15** Meridian **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News **11.05** Business Report **11.15** Images of Britain **11.30** Multitrack 1 **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** Jazz Score **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Folk Routes **1.45** Health Matters **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Just a Minute **3.00** News **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** John Peel **4.00** News **4.15** Health Matters

CLASSIC FM
6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Robert Booth **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Schnittke (Concerto Grosso No 1); Schubert (String Quartet in E) **3.00** Petroc Trelawny **6.00** Classic Reports with Margaret Howard **7.00** *Our Musical Yesterdays* **8.00** *Classic FM Concert: Hungarian State SO under Fischer* performs Kodály (Suite, Háry János); Haydn (Violin Concerto in C; Symphony No 15); Bartók (Piano Concerto No 1) **10.00** Adrian Love **1.00-5.00am** André Leon

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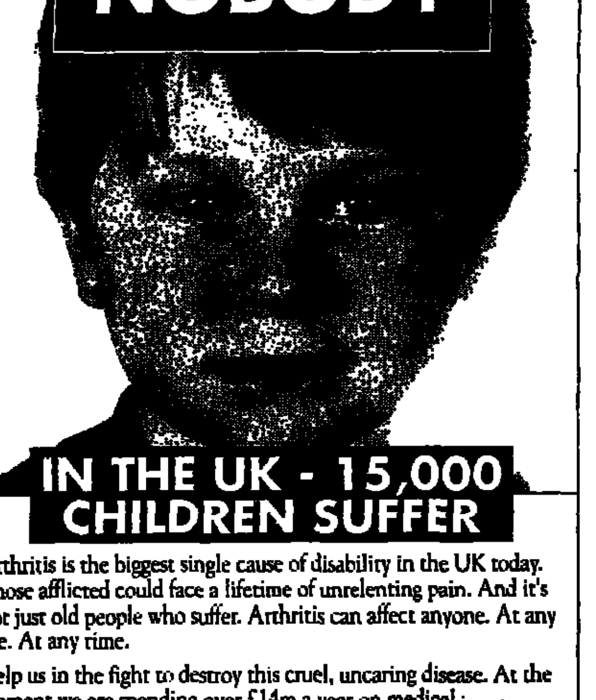

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Germans to press for steel cuts deal

By Colin Narbrough
World Trade Correspondent

■ Cuts in steel making capacity across Europe are urgently needed. European Commission initiatives are going nowhere but the Germans want a voluntary system

THE chairmen of Thyssen and Krupp-Hoesch, Germany's leading steel producers, will today press the European Commission to drop its objections to a voluntary cartel that would allow steelmakers to pay each other to shut down excess capacity. The move is prompted by fears that massive losses will lead to closures within the industry.

The meeting follows the revelation from Fernand Braun, the EC "steel envoy", that two months spent pleading with more than 60 companies, including British Steel, to cut capacity had produced little but empty promises.

About a quarter of the estimated 30 million tonnes of excess capacity in the European Community is in Germany, where the steel industry is predominantly in the private sector, unlike in France and Italy, where steel firms are state-dominated.

The Germans' anxiety over steel will also be aired at a meeting in Dusseldorf today between the steelmakers and Johannes Rau, prime minister of North Rhine Westphalia, the state in which the Ruhr district, home of the steel industry, is located.

Another indicator of the difficulties was the announcement on Friday that the management board of Thyssen had agreed to cut its remuneration 10 per cent and freeze executive pay this year.

Faced with recession, a flood of imports of cheap steel from eastern and central European producers hungry for hard currency, and American anti-dumping sanctions, Germany has already seen the first manifestation of the depth of the problems in steel. Klöckner-Werke, a leading steelmaker, was forced to seek court protection from its creditors in December.

Rumours persist that the newly merged Krupp-Hoesch, which suffered losses of about DM500 million on steel operations last year, is also on the verge of needing either court protection or savage cuts in blast furnace and rolling mill capacity that would devastate whole towns in the Ruhr. Krupp, the parent company, remains burdened by huge debts, many of which are a hangover from the industry's troubles of the early eighties. Servicing this debt is estimated to cost an annual DM400 million.

Gerhard Cromme and Heinz Kriwet, managing board chairmen at Krupp-Hoesch and Thyssen respectively, will today try to persuade Martin Bangemann, the European industry commissioner, and Karel van Miert, the competition commissioner, that a voluntary arrangement to reduce capacity would be the best way to avoid disaster in European steel.

The scheme, originally proposed by the German iron and steel association, foresees steel firms that can afford to, paying others to shut capacity. This is seen as a more market-orientated solution than the across-the-board quota regime the commission can enforce under the "manifest crisis" clause of European steel legislation. For Germany's private sector steelmakers, delivery quotas punish the efficient firms and do nothing to reduce surplus capacity.

Herr Bangemann, Germany's former economics minister, has been criticised in Germany for failing to recognise the seriousness of the situation.

Sir Leon Brittan, as competition commissioner last year, was opposed, on anti-trust grounds, to any deals being struck between Europe's big steel companies.

Herr Bangemann indicated greater readiness to compromise by sending Mr Braun to investigate the scope for voluntary capacity cuts. But the report indicates that steelmakers are not ready to offer anything like the volume of cuts Herr Bangemann sought.

In the absence of a voluntary internal solution from the steelmakers, the commission is expected to be asked by Eurofer, the European steel lobby, to impose a three to five-year regime of delivery quotas that would start on April 1.

Eurofer is keen to see this backed up by linking any further subsidies to automatic cuts in capacity and for a ban on new capacity being built in product areas already in trouble. Herr Bangemann has, however, only recently gone on record as saying that he is opposed to declaring "manifest crisis".

Executive action: Tiny Rowland and Dieter Bock, who are meeting tomorrow

Bock's Lonrho role to be decided

By Our City Staff

DIETER Bock, who now owns 18.8 per cent of Lonrho, and Tiny Rowland, its chief executive, will decide at a meeting to be held tomorrow night what sort of executive position the German businessman will occupy at the group. An announcement is expected later in the week along with results from Lonrho, which, at the time of the rights issue that let Herr Bock into Lonrho, forecast a fall in pre-tax profits from £201 million to £79 million and a cut in the dividend from 13p to 4p for the year to September.

Analysts see Herr Bock's role as taking Lonrho into Mr Rowland's perceived new area of opportunity in eastern Europe.

Van Miert keeps the Brussels watchers guessing

From Tom Walker
in Brussels

KAREL van Miert, the European Community's new competition commissioner, is in no hurry to let an increasingly restive band of lobbyists, lawyers and assorted Euro-watchers know which way his regime will tilt.

In his first major speech as competition commissioner last week, the Belgian socialist deepened the mystery of what Sir Leon Brittan's successor is really about. Mr Van Miert's audience comprised industrial chiefs from the full spectrum of the French state sector, who expected to hear the death-knell sounded over Sir Leon's competition dogma. Indeed, there were cries of delight when Mr Van Miert said he did not "believe in competition policy as a religion" and that "social and environmental" considerations had to be taken into account. But he added: "If you think you've got a sort of anti-Sir Leon Brittan here, forget it."

Reports that British Airways' takeover of Dan Air will be reinvestigated at Belgian-French behest have been denied, and he hinted that pragmatism — as he has promised before — will be the hallmark of his regime.

Strangely, the two occasions when Mr Van Miert wandered into controversy were not included in a summary made the following day by his spokesman. Where was the part where he had described Sabena, the Belgian carrier, as a "catastrophe" and a company "that should have been privatised long ago"? And where was the part in which Mr Van Miert joined the "social dumping" debate and accused the British government of "trying to play a game of football with its hands"?

Mr Van Miert questioned the logic of privatising Britain's railways and said "we have to intervene" to help save something of Europe's steel industry. There was little meat on any of these bones, but he did just enough to convince sceptics that he was not in the pocket of his audience.

"I hope my friend doesn't think I am a Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde," Mr Van Miert joked to the conference president. But that is just what he is to most onlookers at present, and the first big merger or state-aid test of his new regime is awaited eagerly.

Oil market braced for key Opec meeting

By George Sivell, City Editor

THE oil market is bracing itself this week for a crucial price and production-fixing meeting by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries in Vienna on Saturday that could see a dispute over whether Kuwait should now cut its production.

Kuwait has been excluded from Opec calculations since the end of the Gulf war, as it strives to restore its economy, but it may now be brought back into the fold by other Opec members.

However, prices remain steady in spite of fears that agreement will be difficult to achieve. North Sea Brent oil for March delivery ended last week at about the $18.50 a barrel mark. But the oil price over the next year is crucial to the fortunes of British companies such as BP, which reports results later this week, and Lasmo. Saudi Arabia says it will support a cut in output from the January level of an estimated 25 million barrels a day, the highest for a decade.

Under Saudi plans, output would be cut by 1.5 million barrels a day, which on Western estimates would balance the oil market. Estimates of oil consumption in the second quarter are between 23.5 million and 24 million barrels a day.

Opec set a first-quarter production ceiling of 24.6 million barrels a day amid promises to mop up the current oil glut caused by recession in the developed world.

However, the price of oil has also fallen. The International Energy Agency, the West's oil watchdog, reports that oil cost the industrial powers an average $18.45 per barrel in 1992, down from $19.30 in 1991.

But cheaper petrol should not be counted on this year, unless the United Nations makes the unlikely step of suddenly lifting its embargo on the oil exports of Iraq. Dr Subroto, of Indonesia, the Opec secretary-general, said that such a move could be a disaster for producers.

Saudi Arabia is now likely to plead for Kuwait to be brought back into the Opec system and be asked to take a production cut.

But Ali al-Baghli, Kuwait's oil minister, is reported to have said that he expects Saturday's Opec meeting to allow Kuwait to continue increasing its share of output. He said that Kuwait would exert pressure against any move to cut its production.

Alirio Parra of Venezuala, the Opec president, said he was optimistic that the group would reach an accord in Vienna on production cuts. There is a political will to implement this agreement within Opec member countries."

He added that his efforts to gather support for a production cut before the Vienna meeting were not aimed at attaining a particular price target.

"I am looking to establish the market position under which prices will firm up," he said. The market has been sceptical about whether Kuwait, Nigeria and Libya would be willing to implement cuts under any Opec deal.

The president said he did not share any such worries. "I met with the Kuwaitis. I got very strong support from them.

"They recognise the need for these measures, and I would expect that with their help we will have a consensus," he said.

Charterhouse sale imminent

By Philip Pangalos

CHARTERHOUSE, the City of London merchant bank being offered for sale by Royal Bank of Scotland, is expected to confirm this week that it has been sold to Crédit Commercial de France, the French Bank, and Berliner Handelsund-Frankfürter, the German commercial bank.

Royal's decision to hold out and opt for a sale to a consortium of continental European banks is expected to have resulted in the merchant bank being sold for a higher than expected price of about £235 million. This compares favourably with original expectations of a £200 million price tag for Charterhouse, although some more optimistic estimates had valued Charterhouse at up to £250 million.

A Charterhouse spokesman was unable to confirm that the deal had been finalised, but said: "Negotiations are still on and are continuing. We should be able to make an announcement early this week."

Royal Bank of Scotland, which has close links with both CCF and BHF, will almost certainly retain a minority 10 per cent stake in Charterhouse as part of the deal, which is expected to give the French and Germans an equal share in Charterhouse. The current management are also likely to stay on at the bank under its new ownership.

Royal bought Charterhouse in 1985, and invested about £200 million in building up its position in London. The merchant bank's profits surged during the 1980s, to reach £42.1 million by 1990, although profits slumped to £21.2 million last year, reflecting a drop in the performance of the development capital division and a contraction in merchant banking and corporate finance activity. Charterhouse's net assets stood at £176.8 million in September 1991.

Under threat: Norman Lamont's target range

Inflation trends come into focus

By Janet Bush, Economics Correspondent

INFLATION trends are likely to become a key issue this week, as the government publishes both retail and producer prices for January, against a background of a weak exchange rate and intensifying debate about how much sterling's depreciation will feed through into higher price pressures.

Producer prices, released tomorrow, are more important that usual because it is in January that many businesses publish annual price lists and the figures will, therefore, give a much better indication than those since September of how much manufacturers intend to pass on higher import costs to customers. The uncertainties that surround large currency devaluations mean that the range of forecasts is more than usually wide.

According to MMS International's survey of forecasts, predictions for input prices range from a rise of 0.2 per cent last month to an increase of 1.5 per cent and, year-on-year, rises of between 5.5 and 6.9 per cent. In December, input prices rose by 0.1 per cent, an annual rate of 5.2 per cent.

Forecasts for output price rises range from 0.2 to 1.3 per cent and year-on-year increases of between 2.9 and 4.1 per cent. In December, factory gate prices rose 0.2 per cent, an annual increase of 3.5 per cent.

During the months since sterling left the exchange-rate mechanism, a period that has seen the pound fall 14.5 per cent, weak demand has appeared to limit the extent to which manufacturers have been able to pass on higher import costs. However, Chris Dillow of Nomura Research, notes: "Most companies only review prices once or twice a year and so the weakness of prices since September is due to an administrative fact, rather than real economic forces."

However, it still remains to be seen whether demand will be strong enough to justify substantially higher factory gate prices.

Friday sees the publication of the latest information on retail prices. The retail prices index, the headline rate of inflation, is expected to fall to as low as 2.3 per cent, again virtually entirely reflecting lower mortgage rates. The headline rate was 2.6 per cent in December. However, the RPI excluding mortgage rates, the indicator of underlying inflation targeted by the government, is expected to rise to an annual rate of about 3.9 per cent from 3.7 per cent in December and 3.6 per cent in November.

The Central Statistical Office said last month that higher food prices were likely to boost underlying inflation last month and this, and petrol prices were also likely to exert an upward pressure.

There is quite a substantial body of opinion in the City which believes that underlying inflation will break out of the 1 per cent to 4 per cent target range set by Norman Lamont, the Chancellor.

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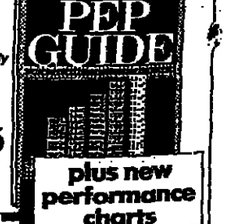

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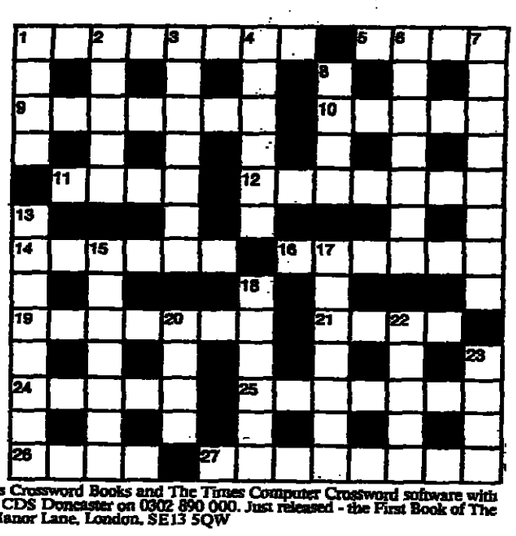
1 Rochester's lover (4,4)
5 German count (4)
9 Prolong (4,3)
10 Rubber tree fluid (5)
11 Abominable snowman (4)
12 Final (7)
14 Uncultured (6)
16 Very fast (music) (6)
19 Assorted (7)
21 Waist ribbon (4)
24 Illustrious (5)
25 Location (7)
26 Always (4)
27 Lineage (8)

DOWN
1 Deserved (4)
2 Din (5)
3 Sexual literature (7)
4 Miserably unwell (6)
6 Food allowance (7)
7 Obsession (8)
8 Walk heavily (4)
13 Testimony (8)
15 Attracting affection (7)
17 Gymkhana badge (7)
18 Cause (6)
20 Carol - , film director (4)
22 Spell of duty (5)
23 Hideous (4)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 3015

ACROSS: 1 Verbatim 7 Clown 8 Bombshell 9 Cap 10 Adam 11 Excite 13 Trench 14 Bear up 19 Huddle 20 Stir 21 Lay 23 Manhattan 24 Funny 25 Deserter

DOWN: 1 Vibrant 2 Rampage 3 Also 4 Ice axe 5 Force 6 Snape 7 Claimed 12 Academy 15 Ratatat 16 Partner 17 Plunge 18 Bluff 19 Hyena 22 Pane



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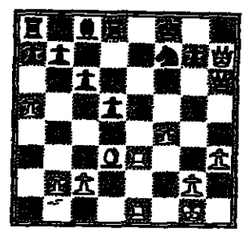
CHESS

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

Today's position is from the game Pingitzer — Jusic, Austria 1992. White has sacrificed a piece for a powerful attack and now justified his play with a brilliant finish. Can you see how?

Solution on page 34



WORD POWER

By PHILIP HOWARD

AULD REEKIES
BURDIEHOUSE
a. A French suburb
b. An aviary
c. A club for crack golfers

SYVER
a. A drain
b. A Scots nonentity
c. To taste

VENNEL
a. Corrupt municipal official
b. To let blood
c. A narrow lane

BARLEY
a. To malt oatcakes
b. A schottische
c. A truce

Answers on page 34

هكذا من الأصل